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SHABAN 23 1408 AH

One passenger released: negotiations deadlocked

Hijackers shoot dead Kuwaiti Army official

Bomb blast in Sharq

An explosion occurred in a police parking lot in Sharq, in Kuwait city yesterday, but caused no casualties and little damage, police said.

Police near the scene said the source of the blast near a police car was being investigated.

Arab Times will bring out a 4-page supplement on NRI (Non-Resident Indian) finance and investment tomorrow.

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- ہی جنرے نے ایک بھائی کو پلاک کر دیا
- ایک اور صاف کرنیں
- صدر ضم کرتے ہی کے
- کچھ اچانک پسندوں سے
- استکر میڑاں حاصل کر لے
- عراق شاریان پر میڑاں
- جلوکر ریئے
- مرالات ○ پرستیاں

WEATHER

CLOUDY to partly cloudy weather with light to moderate easterly wind and a chance of thunderstorms at times.
State of sea: moderate
High water: 7.00 am, 4.00 pm
Sunrise: 5.27 am
Sunset: 6.12 pm
Maximum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 33°C 73°F
Abu Dhabi: 37°C 98°F
Falak: 29°C 84°F
Minimum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 21°C 70°F
Abu Dhabi: 23°C 73°F
Maximum temperature expected: Kuwait: 33°C 73°F
Abu Dhabi: 37°C 98°F
Falak: 29°C 84°F
Maximum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 40 per cent
Abu Dhabi: 50 per cent
Falak: 59 per cent
Maximum humidity expected: Kuwait: 55 per cent
Abu Dhabi: 64 per cent
Falak: 75 per cent

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SEE PAGE 3



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man Akis Fantis said the delegation was led by Kuwait's Minister of State for Service Affairs, Issa Mohammed Al Mazidi.

The delegation was briefed at the airport by the first eight-member delegation led by the director of Kuwait's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Hours after the body of the dead man was removed, the terrorists released a passenger identified as Fadhel Adel Rasoul Leiri, 32, a Kuwaiti computer expert, for unspecified "health reasons." Fadhel is a Shi'ite.

The release came after a series of negotiating sessions between the air pirates and a team comprised of an aviation official and two members of the PLO.

Control

"They handed him over to me a short while ago as a sign of goodwill," Milad Abdur, one of the PLO officials, said at 8 pm local time in a telephone interview from the control tower.

Shortly after the release, however, a Cypriot government spokesman said efforts to end the drama appeared to be in deadlock.

On their part, the hijackers reminded Kuwaiti and Cypriot authorities that they were still vehemently adhering to their original demand.

"Attention government of Kuwait and government of Cyprus and the entire world. We insist on our demands, namely



The body of the Kuwaiti killed by hijackers lying in a Larnaca hospital. (Reuters wirephoto)

the release of our 17 brothers from Kuwaiti prison. Please reply Kuwait and stop gambling on our retreat and our demands," the hijackers told the Larnaca control tower.

Fantis, commenting on the release, told reporters "the hijackers said it is good gesture but this does not mean that the situation changes. We insist on the release of all hostages and they do not agree with this. They have asked for medicine which shall be provided."

Determine

Asked if Cyprus would reciprocate the release with anything, Fantis said: "Nothing, the man was sick, exhausted and has been taken to hospital. His return is a good gesture but they still insist on leaving without releasing any of the hostages and so we have come to a deadlock."

Cyprus television reported that the hijackers initially proposed that five hostages be released in exchange for refuelling of their aircraft and its departure from Cyprus.

They later suggested that half the passengers be freed in return for the release of similar number of the 17 held by Kuwait, it added.

Finally, the TV said, the hijackers proposed that the three sentenced to death be released in exchange for half the passengers, adding that when the trio's release was confirmed, they would let the remaining passengers go.

Senior Cypriot officials declined to confirm or deny the television report.

Positions

The hijackers executed the passenger with three gunshots fired at point-blank range from behind the ear about 11:35 am, an hour after the lapse of their deadline for refuelling the plane, a Cypriot government spokesman said.

Airport authorities said privately they expected the killing to harden the positions of Cyprus and Kuwait, which has refused to release the 17 prisoners.

(Continued on Page 4)

IBM, a company with extensive business dealings with Khorafi Business Machines which employs Fadhel Abdul Rasoul Leiri, a Kuwaiti hostage released yesterday in Larnaca, is prepared to send a private jet to Cyprus to bring him home.

"We want to get him out of Cyprus as soon as the authorities allow us," said Mustafa Rughani, the IBM regional manager who flew to Kuwait from Paris three days ago following the hijacking of flight KU 422.

Rughani left last night for Cyprus where the IBM staff from the company's two offices, in Larnaca and Nicosia, are looking after Leiri.

One of Leiri's colleagues in Kuwait said yesterday: "We are

(Continued on Page 4)

HH the Amir today inaugurates a two-day meeting of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) that will discuss the recent developments in Muslim world.

The mini-summit will also review the activities of the member states of OIC regarding the implementation of recommendations adopted by the last OIC summit held in Kuwait last year.

Uprising

The OIC meeting will be presided over by the Amir and will be attended by Morocco, Maldives, Turkey, Pakistan, Gabon, Senegal and the PLO.

Gabon, Maldives and the PLO form the bureau of the fifth Islamic conference as they were elected vice-chairmen and the rest of the participants are chair-

men of the standing committees.

OIC's bureau is responsible for following up the implementation of the resolutions adopted at the summit conferences.

The Palestinian uprising, the Iran-Iraq war and the Afghan problem are on the top of the agenda of the meetings beginning today.

The Iranian government has refused all mediation efforts to settle the dispute with Iraq, even those efforts carried out by OIC delegations.

Iran's stubborn policy and its refusal to accept OIC's resolutions are obstructing peace and the work and activities of the organisation.

In addition, Kuwait has been a target of several Iranian aggressions in the form of attacks on Kuwaiti-owned cargo vessels in

Kuwait feared a suicide crash

LARNACA, April 9. (Agencies): Kuwaiti authorities yesterday feared that after the hijacked jumbo took off from Mashhad in northeast Iran, the hijackers might attempt a spectacular suicide crash into Kuwait airport or the royal palace.

Western diplomats, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that the fears arose after Kuwaiti officials debriefed 49 freed passengers and crew members who were brought back to Kuwait from Mashhad.

The diplomats did not say if the hijackers had made any specific threat to stage a Kamikaze-style crash, but reported the Kuwaitis were "genuinely concerned" about that possibility.

On Friday the Iraqi pilot and passengers of the airliner pleaded for their lives as the jet circled Beirut airport forbidden to land.

Tense exchanges between the Boeing 747 and Beirut control tower highlighted the drama and terror aboard the plane.

"Control tower, control tower ... can you hear me, can you hear me. Kuwaiti, Kuwaiti. They are forcing me to land," the pilot radioed as he approached Beirut.

"I am the hijacked plane. They are forcing me to land. We are requested to land. If we don't they will shoot us."

"They are forcing me to land. Please, please answer me."

But Syrian Army officers controlling the airport categorically refused permission and threatened to open fire.

As the plane ran low on fuel, a hijacker took the radio and screamed at the control tower: "I am the hijacker talking. We don't want a confrontation with you. We have members of the Kuwaiti royal family."

A tower official replied: "Don't get angry ... I cannot allow you to land in Beirut."

Two passengers added their pleas.

"I am Anware Khaled Al Sabah, one of the passengers of the plane. Please allow us to land at the airport," a sobbing woman member of Kuwait's ruling family said.

A man said in a trembling voice: "My name is Khaled Al Ghabandi, one of the passengers of the plane. The plane has no fuel. We have to land. The passengers are scared. I am speaking on behalf of all the passengers."

The pilot again begged for landing rights:

"I beg you. I kiss your hand. I beg you again, please let me land. I swear I understand all your reasons, but I beg you because I have human lives at risk here. I beg you to allow me to land."

"You are wasting your time here," an official told them as darkness fell.

A hijacker threatened to crash the plane into the airport, but it eventually turned away out to sea and landed a short time later at Larnaca airport in Cyprus.

Protesters hurt

TEL AVIV, (Reuters): Israeli troops wounded at least two Palestinian protesters today in what an Army spokesman described as "a quiet day" in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

(Continued on Page 4)

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Sheikh Saad appreciates Cypriot efforts

HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah, said yesterday that Kuwaiti and Cypriot authorities are continuing their efforts to secure the quick release of the passengers aboard the hijacked Kuwaiti plane.

The Crown Prince thanked the Cypriot authorities for their concern and for allowing the Kuwaiti plane to land in Larnaca airport.

He hoped that Cypriot officials' efforts would be successful in releasing the passengers and the aircraft.

Team

Meanwhile, officials at Larnaca airport, Cyprus said a Kuwaiti negotiating team reached Larnaca at 2 am yesterday (2300 GMT Friday) aboard an executive jet "to cooperate with Cypriot authorities in securing the release of the people on the hijacked aircraft."

Eight people, identified as senior diplomats and aides, got off the plane and were escorted by armed Cypriot police officers into the terminal building to meet Cyprus' Foreign Minister, George Iacovou, and Interior Minister Christodoulos Veniamin, the officials said.

One of the diplomats was identified as a member of Kuwait's ruling Al Sabah family, three of whose members are on the hijacked airliner. But the officials did not name him.

Sikhs may have Stinger missiles

AMRITSAR, April 9. (AP): Police officials said today they fear that Sikh extremists have acquired Stinger anti-aircraft missiles and have hidden them inside the Golden Temple, Sikhism's holiest shrine.

Acquisition of the US-made shoulder-launched missiles would be a major increase in weaponry for the extremists, who have been waging a guerrilla war since 1982 for more political autonomy or an independent homeland in northern Punjab state.

Suggest

The Sikhs have largely relied on knives, swords, pistols and automatic rifles. Last month, the extremists used rocket-propelled grenades for the first time in three attacks on police and paramilitary units.

A senior Punjab police official said in an interview that initial intelligence reports suggest the militants inside the temple may have Stinger missiles with them. He spoke on condition of anonymity.

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Pakistani President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq heads a committee on science and technology while Turkish President Kenan Evren heads a committee on economic and trade cooperation.

The Moroccan Premier Azizine Laraki also arrived yesterday for the meeting.

Before his departure Zia said in Islamabad, Pakistan, that the meeting has no fixed agenda.

OIC mini-summit begins today

INTERNATIONAL

Emergency declared in Honduras

TEGUCIGALPA, April 9. (Reuters): Troops and tanks patrolled the Honduran capital today to enforce a state of emergency after anti-US riots killed five people.

The government said it had uncovered "a vast plan of terrorist actions ... to sow chaos, disorder and unrest" backed by leftist Salvadorean rebels.

It also said in radio broadcasts that drug traffickers had promoted violence.

Protests flared over the controversial expulsion of suspected drug baron Juan Ramon Matta to the United States on Tuesday and over Washington's pervasive influence in Honduras.

Hundreds of troops and police, backed by half a dozen tanks, stood guard in quiet streets. Restaurants and bars, usually open into the early hours, were almost all closed on Friday.

Four bombs exploded in Tegucigalpa on Friday and protesters set fire to seven vehicles in the city of San Pedro Sula, 160 km north of the capital, the government said.

Decree

President Jose Azcona called a special cabinet meeting on Friday and decreed a 15-day state of emergency in the two cities to try to quell the unrest. It was the first state of emergency declared in Honduras in more than a decade.

The measure followed a mob attack on the US consulate on Thursday night. Four people were killed by gunfire outside the consulate and another was buried to death according to local radio and press reports.

Demonstrators said the expulsion of Matta was illegal as he is Honduran and the constitution bars extradition of Honduran nationals.

The government reported many arrests on Friday, but gave no figures, and said it uncovered a cache of five bombs at a teacher training college in Tegucigalpa.

Riot police in Tegucigalpa broke up marches the Congress and the US Embassy with tear gas and shots in the air.

One American was beaten up in the street and foreign reporters were threatened by demonstrators.

UN-backed accord bound to be broken

Afghan rebels vow to fight

PESHAWAR, April 9. (Reuters): Guerrillas fighting Soviet and Kabul government forces have pouted scorn on the UN-sponsored Afghan settlement, calling it an agreement designed to be violated.

"The mujahedeen ... will not be bound by the outcome of the Geneva agreements and they will continue the war," the main Pakistani-based guerrilla alliance said in a statement.

The alliance based in the Pakistani frontier town of Peshawar issued the statement last night hours after UN mediator Diego Cordovez announced the Geneva agreement was ready for signing.

Officials said the pact, which provides for the withdrawal of an estimated 115,000 Soviet troops from Afghanistan and the return of some five million refugees, could be signed by Pakistan and the Kabul government no later than April 14.

The guerrillas said the accord,

which also stipulates an end to outside interference in Afghanistan, would be broken immediately because the superpowers had agreed to continue to arm their respective allies during and after a withdrawal.

Violation

"After the signing of the agreement, continued support to the mujahedeen will mean that the agreement was signed to be violated," the 2,000-word statement said.

"What will be the value of an agreement which is signed with the intention to be violated afterwards?"

Officials said the pact, which provides for the withdrawal of an estimated 115,000 Soviet troops from Afghanistan and the return of some five million refugees, could be signed by Pakistan and the Kabul government no later than April 14.

The statement, issued by the office of alliance chairman Gul-

buddin Hekmatyar, said the agreement was ineffective and flawed because it did not provide for a new government acceptable to the people of Afghanistan and the refugees.

Pakistan, which provides a home to three million refugees and thousands of guerrillas, would lose respect in the eyes of the refugees if it signed, it added.

Observers in Islamabad say about a million people have been killed and vast tracts of agricultural land rendered unusable for years in the fighting since Soviet troops entered Afghanistan in 1979 to shore up a weak Marxist government.

Endorsement

The United States and Soviet Union will not sign the Geneva accords between Islamabad and Kabul but will agree parallel understandings to create conditions under which the accords can be carried out, US sources in Islamabad said.

The United States has given a

conditional endorsement to the UN-mediated Afghan settlement, providing for a Soviet troop withdrawal but reserving final judgement until the issue of military aid to the Afghan combatants is clarified.

While the Reagan administration stopped short of an immediate decision to guarantee the accord reached after six years of negotiations, US officials said on Friday they were "delighted" at the development.

"We're delighted," White House Chief of Staff Howard Baker told reporters in California when asked about the accord. "We're pleased with it. We think it's a positive development."

"I indeed think that the chances are good that we will go forward as guarantors," he said. "But I think it is prudent and wise to see the fine print."

"That is why the United States expresses a conditional willingness to become a guarantor," Baker said.

BEIJING, April 9. (UPI): China's parliament confirmed Li Peng as premier today, electing the Soviet-trained electrical engineer to the post once held by his adoptive father, the revered communist leader Chou En-Lai.

Li, 59, a leading expert on nuclear power, was elected by the nearly 3,000 delegates of the National People's Congress, China's nominal legislature. Newly elected President Yang Shangkun had named him personally.

The Soviet-trained technocrat was granted temporary stewardship of the post last November when then-Premier Zhao Ziyang became general secretary of the Communist Party.

Chou served as China's premier and chief foreign policy maker from the communist nation's founding in 1949 until his death in 1976.

Ballots

The confirmation gives Li, as China's head of government, the chance to make his mark as he takes charge of implementing a new phase of senior leader Deng Xiaoping's ambitious programme of market-oriented economic reforms.

Li, while pledging support for the reforms, revealed a conservative bent last year when he joined a campaign against Western

tern liberal ideas. Splashes of crimson, pink and orange flashed throughout the cavernous Great Hall of the People as delegates carefully marked coloured ballots with their choices for a variety of state posts.

Delegates also appointed Yang and Zhao as vice-chairmen of the government central military commission and elected six Deng nominees to it. The slate brings the panel in line with the more powerful party military commission, which oversees the 3 million-strong People's Liberation Army.

Among the military leaders elected were Qin Jiwei, a general expected to become China's new Defence Minister, Army Chief of Staff Chi Haotian and Yang Baibing, head of the Army's political wing and younger brother of President Yang Shangkun.

Li was born in 1928 in Chengdu, and his father was killed by the Nationalists in the early days of the communist revolution.

After his adoption by Chou and his wife, Deng Yingchao, he attended the first communist Chinese engineering institute in the northwest town of Yenan, the base camp of Chairman Mao Tse-Tung during the anti-Japanese war.

A sharp decline in Mideast arms buying

WASHINGTON, April 9. (AP): The decline of oil wealth and easy credit has sapped the energy of the Middle East arms-buying sprees of the early 1980s; the US arms control and disarmament agency said.

At the same time the development contributed to a \$16 billion-a-year drop in worldwide arms imports, the agency said in a report.

"As late as 1984, the trend in arms imports by developing nations was sharply up in almost all years, fuelled by ambitious force improvement programmes, financed, in most cases by rising oil prices and easy credit," said the annual study of global arms sales released yesterday.

The oil glut and the Third World's debt problems led to a decline in arms buying. Besides, the report said, many of the countries who bought all those weapons in the early 1980s don't need any more now.

Imports

The study, "World Military Expenditures and Arms Transfers," contains statistics on arms supplying and buying countries through 1986, when weapons imports totalled more than \$34 billion. That compared with \$42 billion in 1985 and about \$50 billion a year between 1981 and 1984.

"A sharp decline in Middle East arms imports in 1985 and 1986 was the main contributor to the decline in the world and developing-country totals," the agency said. "From their peak in 1984, Middle East imports dropped an average of 24 per cent in 1985 and 1986."

Military spending by Middle Eastern countries also declined, while the world as a whole was paying more and more for war-making capability. From \$380 billion in 1985, global military spending rose to \$321 billion in 1986, the report said.

Information

Because of the difficulty of obtaining data on arms purchases, especially in non-democratic countries, the most recent country-by-country information on weapons imports covers the year 1985, the agency said. In that period, war-torn Iraq topped the list, importing \$4 billion worth of armaments, mostly from the Soviet Union. Iraq was followed in order by Saudi Arabia, India, Cuba, West Germany, Iran, Libya, Syria, Egypt and the Soviet Union.

The United States, which is being urged by its Nato partners to buy more weapons from Western Europe, ranked 23rd on the list of importing nations, with \$600 million worth of purchases.

Shultz may return for a third time

WASHINGTON, April 9. (Agencies): US Secretary of State George Shultz, back from his latest Middle East trip, is determined to press on with his peace mission and expects to return to the region this year for a third time.

"It's worth swimming upstream," he said of the search for Middle East peace.

Shultz faces an extremely busy schedule during his last year in office with a Moscow summit in May, strategic arms control talks and an Asian trip in July.

But he told reporters travelling with him: "You can always find time for something that holds even the slightest possibility of moving forward."

Initiative

Shultz returned to Washington late yesterday after a six-day 16,200-mile (26,000-km) shuttle to Israel, Jordan, Egypt, Syria and Saudi Arabia to try to win support for a new US peace initiative.

It was launched two months ago largely in response to unrest in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip in which at least 135 Palestinians, an Israeli soldier and an Israeli civilian have died.

The plan calls for a non-binding international peace conference to pave the way for direct Arab-Israeli negotiations and is based on the principle of trading land for peace.

It also envisages a period of limited self-rule for Palestinians, followed by talks on a permanent Arab-Israeli settlement.

Shultz had hoped Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Jordan's King Hussein would give the initiative impetus by embracing it. But neither has done so.

The Israeli government remains bitterly divided over the plan and King Hussein is wary.

"The reaction is just short of negative to positive-scared to death," one senior US official said.

Tamils massacre 14 Sinhalese

COLOMBO, April 9. (AP): Separatist Tamil rebels stopped 14 Sinhalese villagers on a road in northern Sri Lanka and massacred them, military officials said today.

The slaying took place last evening when villagers on bicycles and in a truck were stopped near the town of Anuradhapura, about 160 kilometers northeast of Colombo, said the officials on condition of anonymity.

Meanwhile, detectives have arrested a Sinhalese man believed responsible for the assassination attempt against President Junius Jayewardene in Parliament last year.

Jith Kumara, 28, was arrested on Friday at Naula Village, 110 kilometers northeast of Colombo, said Frank Silva, director of the Criminal Investigation Department.

Silva described Kumara as "the main suspect in the parliament grenade attack" last Aug. 18 in which two hand grenades were thrown into a room where Jayewardene was presiding over a meeting of cabinet ministers and lawmakers.

A lawmaker and a clerk were killed and several people were injured.

The latest killings raised to at least 147 the number of villagers slain in northern Sri Lanka since March 2. Most of the victims have been members of the island's majority Sinhalese community.

But at least 22 members of the minority Tamil Community were killed in a revenge attack blamed on Sinhalese on March 11, and 17 Muslims died in a raid blamed on Tamil separatists on March 31.

The accord was opposed by many in the majority Sinhalese community, who felt it made too many concessions to the Tamils.

Britain invented racism

PHILADELPHIA, April 9. (AP): Britain "invented racism" and was forced to accept blacks in politics only because they demanded their rights, the first black Member of Parliament said in a speech.

In an address to the 12th annual conference of the National Council for Black Studies, Diane Abbott said last night that she was told blacks were "distinctly unelectable" and received little support from whites during her campaign.

Before her election to the House of Commons in 1987, the Cambridge-educated politician was accused of anti-Semitism and of supporting only the interests of blacks and women, she said.

"It is a common fallacy among Americans to believe Europeans are nicer than Americans and more liberal than Americans," she said.

Li, while pledging support for the reforms, revealed a conservative bent last year when he joined a campaign against Western

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UN chief fails to make headway in Gulf talks

UNITED NATIONS, April 9. (AP) The latest round of high-level UN talks on a negotiated peace between Iraq and Iran ended yesterday with no outward signs of progress.

Iraq's Deputy Foreign Minister, Mohammed Larjani, told reporters he had proposed some "new ideas" to Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar about how to conduct any further talks.

But his comments indicated Iran has not budged in its objections to the heart of the UN peace effort: a Security Council resolution demanding a ceasefire and a negotiated settlement to the war.

Measure

The resolution is now nearly nine months old and Iran has yet to endorse it. Iraq did so almost immediately.

The United States, the measure's staunchest advocate, has been saying for months that it is time for the council to enforce the measure by imposing a worldwide arms embargo on Iraq.

Larjani blamed Iraq and the United States for hogging down the peace initiative. He complained about the US push for an embargo and he faulted Iraq for insisting that the resolution must be implemented as written by the Security Council — with a ceasefire and troop withdrawal

as the first steps.

Iran, however, wants the UN to condemn Iraq as the aggressor in the 7 1/2-year war and a ceasefire as the initial steps. Larjani said the terms of the resolution must conform with Iran's "desires."

As for a troop withdrawal, he said Iraq is seeking a "safe exit" from territory it has invaded and "there is no safe exit for the criminal aggressor."

Larjani returned to this theme again in his news conference yesterday, saying the Security Council should condemn Iraq for using the banned weapons to prove that it is capable of settling larger conflicts like the Iran-Iraq war.

Charges

A team of UN experts is currently investigating the Iranian chemical warfare charges and the Iraqi countercharges. Past teams have found evidence Iraq used mustard gas and nerve gas.

Iraqi sources say Baghdad, disgusted with the lack of progress in the talks this week, has decided not to send its Foreign Minister, Tariq Aziz, for the Iraqi round of talks with Perez de Cuellar. Iraq now plans to send a much lower-ranking envoy to New York next week, the sources said, asking not to be named.

Larjani held several rounds of talks with Perez de Cuellar on

Wednesday and Thursday and met yesterday with several Security Council officials.

Iraq said today it refrained from attacking Iranian cities during Friday's general election to permit Iranians to vote.

The official Iraqi News Agency quoted an authorised source as saying no missiles were fired after Iranians began voting to elect a new parliament.

Fired

However missiles were fired at four Iranian cities — Tehran, Tabriz, Isfahan and Qom — before 30,000 voting stations opened for business throughout Iran.

Iraq's official Islamic Republic News Agency, said Iranian artillery shelled the strategic Dukao hydroelectric dam in northeast Iraq where Revolutionary Guards have captured a large chunk of mountainous Kurdistan in the last three weeks.

It was not known whether the dam, 60 miles (95 kms) north of Iraq's Kirkuk oil fields, was damaged.

The Iranians occupy heights overlooking another important dam and power station on lake Darbaudikan, south of Dukao. Crippling or capturing the two facilities could leave the strategic region around Kirkuk without power.

Brunei minister

MUSCAT, April 9. (Kuna) The Minister of Communications Sheikh Hamoud Bin Abdullah Al Harthi received at his office today morning Brunei's Deputy Foreign Minister Dato Haji Zakaria and his delegation, currently on a visit to Oman.

The visiting official was also received by the Minister of Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones Ahmed Bin Suwaidan Al Baluchi.

Ways of further strengthening cooperation between the two countries were discussed during the interviews, Oman news agency reported.

Indian official visits Oman

MUSCAT, April 9. (Kuna) India's State Minister for Foreign Affairs K.N. Singh arrived here last night on a few days official visit to the Sultanate of Oman.

He was quoted by Radio Muscat as saying on arrival that he is carrying a message from Premier Rajiv Gandhi to Sultan Qaboos Bin Said. The official did not elaborate on the contents of the message.

He was received on arrival by his Omani counterpart Yousef Bin Alawi Abdulla and the Indian ambassador here.

No plan to dismiss non-Kuwaiti employees

KUWAIT'S Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Al Rashed said the government has no plans to dismiss non-Kuwaiti public servants. He said the country's Kuwaitis who reach the age of retirement will be requested to do so and those whose contracts expire will not be given renewals.

In an interview with a Kuwaiti daily, Al Rashed explained that the government is attempting to increase and develop the skills of Kuwaiti employees. About 1,700 employees have been trained over the past two years and many are currently enrolled in training courses, he said.

Denied

He said that authorities are working to carry out the recommendations made by the Higher Committee, regarding the development of the administrative division, but denied that the government had any plans to

Student from Kuwait on President's List

MISS Kamini Talwar, the daughter of Mr and Mrs Jag Mohan Talwar who reside in Kuwait, has qualified again for inclusion in the President's List of the American Business & Fashion Institute, US, because of her outstanding academic achievement.

She is a student in the Fashion Merchandising programme.

To qualify for the President's List, a student must earn a minimum grade point average of 4.00 for the quarter.



Malaysia's Culture and Tourism Minister, Dato Sabbaruddin Chik, and Malaysia's Ambassador to Kuwait, Zainul Abedin Bin Alias, were among the guests of honour on the opening night of the Malaysian Week held at the SAS Kuwait Hotel. The guests were entertained with music and dance by a Malaysian folkloric group. Picture: SAS Kuwait Hotel.

Shows (from left to right): owner of SAS Kuwait Hotel, Hussain Marafia, general manager Werner Kuendig, Dato Chik and Bin Alias.

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Pilots, engineers society deplores hijacking

KUWAITI Pilot and Aircraft Engineers Society deplored yesterday the hijacking of the Kuwaiti airliner Al-Jabriya by unidentified gunmen on Tuesday and described the culprits as a group of "irresponsible demagogic people."

In a cable addressed to Kuwait Airways Chairman Ahmed Hamad Al Mishari, the Kuwaiti society expressed readiness of members to put their capabilities under the disposal of Kuwaiti authorities in order to put an end to the ordeal, stressing that the incident would not weaken their position nor would it affect their commitment to their ideals and principles.

The Kuwaiti airliner was hijacked last Tuesday while on a flight from Bangkok to Kuwait and commandeered by the hijackers to the Iranian airport of Mashhad. The plane stayed at Mashhad airport until earlier today when it was refuelled, contrary to a request by Kuwaiti authorities, and took off for a 3:30 hours flight which ended in the Cypriot airport of Larnaca Friday night.

Turkey has strongly denounced the killing of a Kuwaiti passenger on the hijacked Kuwait Airways plane.

Turkey reiterated its condemnation of any kind of terrorist activity.

A press release of the Turkish embassy in Kuwait said: "Terrorism cannot serve any purpose."

Roudhan meets students union delegation

KUWAIT'S State Minister for Housing Affairs, Nasser Al Roudhan, who is acting Education Minister and Higher Education Minister, yesterday met a delegation from the Kuwait Students Union.

The delegation, led by the union chairman Mohammed Al Dallal, conveyed the students' point of view on the credit hours system regulations, particularly those relating to probation and dismissal.

Al Roudhan told the delegation of the keenness of HH the Amir and of HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah, about the future of the students and their concern about surmounting all obstacles hindering the progress of the students.

Technical staff needed

SAQUER Al Sudan, the Assistant Undersecretary for Administrative Affairs at the Ministry of Communications, said the ministry had a number of vacancies in technical positions because of previous resignations. He added that these positions needed to be filled immediately in order to meet the ministry's expanding work demands.

Chronology of the hijack

All quiet and suddenly the shouting started

NICOSIA, April 9. (Reuters) - "All the passengers were sleepy and suddenly the shouting started."

Five days of terror for the passengers and crew of a Kuwaiti airliner started 30,000 feet over the Arabian Sea, when a man waving a handgun yelled that the plane was being hijacked. This is the timetable since then:

TUESDAY, APRIL 5

0230 (all times in GMT) — Hijackers seize control of Kuwait Airways flight KU422 during a flight from Bangkok to Kuwait.

0340 — The Boeing 747, with 97 names on the passenger list and 15 crew abroad, is allowed to land at Mashhad airport in northeast Iran after the Iraqi pilot says he is running out of fuel.

The hijackers threaten to blow up the plane if anyone tries to approach. Kuwait asks Iran not to let it leave.

Freed

A Jordanian passenger with heart problems is freed. He says there are five or six men armed with hand grenades and pistols.

The hostages include three Kuwaitis from the ruling Al Sabah family — two sisters and their brother.

1500 — The hijackers, speaking in Arabic, demand the release of 17 Muslim fundamentalists jailed in Kuwait.

1645 — The hijackers say the three Kuwaiti royals are "in imminent danger" unless their demands are met.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

Twenty-four women walk to freedom — but not the women from the Kuwaiti ruling family.

Iraq says Kuwait has refused to free the fundamentalists but a Kuwaiti government team flies to Mashhad to try to end the hijack bloodlessly.

The gunmen call for a doctor to attend sick passengers and say time is running out. A doctor goes aboard.

In London, Iran's envoy promises Tehran will make no

concessions.

Gummen repeat that time is running out. "No matter what pressure is used we shall in no way back down on our demands."

Iran says it might refuel the plane to avert a disaster.

THURSDAY, APRIL 7

Hijackers release 32 people but gunmen say about 50 still held, mostly Kuwaitis, are in serious danger and will be treated as "political prisoners." It says the members of the royal family will be among the first to pay a "dear price." Kuwait refuses to negotiate until all the hostages are freed.

The gunmen give Kuwait until 0830 for a positive response to their demands and say that otherwise they will fly out. They repeat their threat to blow up the plane if stopped from leaving. A member of the ruling family tells the control tower the threat is serious.

The hijackers demand fuel but Iran refuses and blocks the runway.

1730 — The hijackers fire five warning shots at security forces and demand that the runway is cleared. The national news agency Irna describes the situation as out of control.

Iran agrees to refuel the plane. Hijackers say they will leave at midnight local time (0230 GMT) and order the runway cleared.

1817 — Airliner lands at Larnaca airport in Cyprus.

SATURDAY, APRIL 9

0315 — Captain reports that hijackers say they will begin beating passengers unless the plane is refuelled within an hour. He reports a few minutes later that beatings have started.

Hijackers say they want to speak to Cypriot Foreign Minister George Iacovou or Interior Minister Christodoulos Veniamin, later say they want two or three Arabic-speaking journalists to come to plane because they have statements to make.

0627 — Hijackers threaten to kill one passenger unless the aircraft is fully refuelled by 0700 GMT, then change the time to 0730 GMT, then 0800 GMT and finally 0830 GMT.

Gummen tell control tower they have killed one passenger.

1000 — Control tower reports "wailing" from inside the plane and says a passenger is being beaten. Three warning shots are fired and a passenger is pulled onto the stairs outside the plane.

1030 — A grenade is thrown onto the tarmac. Iran finally agrees to remove the obstacles.

1115 — Plane takes off, heading west.

1358 — Plane reported heading for Beirut. Officials weary of years of hijacks say it will not be allowed to land.

1457 — Pilot tells Beirut control tower the hostages will be killed unless they let him land "they are forcing me to land. Please, please answer me." The control tower stays silent.

1548 — Syrian troops fire warning shots at plane as it circles the airport for seventh time. A weeping woman passenger pleads for permission to touch down. A control tower official tells them: "You are wasting your time here."

1647 — Hijackers threaten to crash plane onto Beirut airport. Plane swoops low over runway. Finally heads away from Lebanon.

1817 — Airliner lands at Larnaca airport in Cyprus.

SUNDAY, APRIL 10

0315 — Captain reports that hijackers say they will begin beating passengers unless the plane is refuelled within an hour. He reports a few minutes later that beatings have started.

Hijackers say they want to speak to Cypriot Foreign Minister George Iacovou or Interior Minister Christodoulos Veniamin, later say they want two or three Arabic-speaking journalists to come to plane because they have statements to make.

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Gummen tell control tower they have killed one passenger.



receiving the Turkish President Kenan Evren (left) at the airport and talking to Pakistani President Zia-ul-Haq (right).

(Continued from Page 1)

Cypriot government spokesman Akis Fantis confirmed that the victim, about 25 to 30 years of age, was a Kuwaiti security official. Neither Fantis nor Kuwaiti authorities would release the man's name.

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Gummen tell control tower they have killed one passenger.

against the hijackers, said it had been discussed.

In a message to the airport control tower about the killing, the hijackers said: "We did this because you would not give us fuel and you are in agreement with the Kuwaiti government."

The air pirates have repeatedly demanded fuel since they landed at Larnaca about 8 pm last night, but government officials, led by Foreign Minister George Iacovou, have stalled in complying.

Iacovou ruled out the use of force to end the hijack crisis hoping that it would be solved soon peacefully.

Hours earlier the hijackers had carried out a threat to beat the passengers unless Cypriot officials agreed to refuel the aircraft. The pilot reported the beatings, the second such incident since the ordeal began, at 7:10 am, shortly after an earlier refuelling deadline had passed.

Between five and 10 hijackers brandishing pistols and hand grenades initially diverted the plane to Mashhad in northeastern Iran, near the Soviet and Afghan borders, where it sat on the ground for about 80 hours while Iranian authorities negotiated the release of 57 of the 112 people aboard.

Still aboard the aircraft were 55 people, including the five to 10 hijackers and three members of the Kuwaiti ruling family. The passengers were all Kuwaiti nationals. The hijackers told the airport tower that six of their captives were "sick."

The Arabic-speaking terrorists, who were demanding the release of 17 Shi'ite Muslims imprisoned in Kuwait for the 1983 bombings of the US and French embassies and other facilities, forced the Iraqi pilot to take off from Mashhad yesterday and later tried to land at the closed and harried Beirut airport.

"We had been sitting together to keep each other under control. We don't know whether to believe it (news of the release). It would be real difficult if we were happy and it was false," he added.

Fadel's wife Maleeha and their children were at her parents' house when they were telephoned by Kunz to say he had been released.

"I can't believe it until I see him here," she said. "It's such a miracle."

The children were asleep and another member of the family said they would be told the news in the morning.

Service charges for Malaysian hajis to be reduced

KUALA LUMPUR, April 9. (Kuna) — The Saudi Arabian government has agreed to reduce service charges for Malaysian pilgrims this year, the Malaysian Minister in the Prime Minister's Office Dr Yusof Noor said.

The minister who returned from Saudi Arabia yesterday told reporters that the Saudi authorities had earlier fixed payment at 13 million Malaysian dollar but agreed to reduce it by 3.1 million Malaysian dollar.

He said the decision was made following discussions he had with Saudi Endowment and Hajj Minister Sheikh Abdul Wahab Abdul Wassei, his deputy Sheikh Abdullah Bugis, senior ministry officials and head of "Muasasah."

Dr Yusof said the Saudi Arabian government had earlier raised service charges following increased rentals and other charges.

"The reduced fees would benefit the 30,000 Malaysians expected to perform hajj this year," he added.

Replace

One resident, Abdul Aziz Al Khalid, said some commercial shops in model areas provided a variety of goods at reasonable prices. He said most of these shops were close to houses, and trust had been established between the residents and shopkeepers over the years. He said the municipality's decision was a surprise and offered nothing in

return. He said it was only reasonable for the municipality to get the residents' views before reaching a decision.

Another person, Nasser Al Jassim, said closing of commercial shops will have an adverse effect on residents, adding that he did not think the cooperative supermarkets could replace the shops. He said that most items at these shops were cheaper than at the supermarkets.

Wael Al Jarallah said some shops in model areas might give visitors the bad impression that the area was not organised. He supported the municipality's decision, and said that cooperative supermarkets could meet all consumer needs.

Iyad Abdul Salam, said some commercial shops caused a disturbance to residents because many cars parked outside the shops. He backed the municipality decision to remove the shops.

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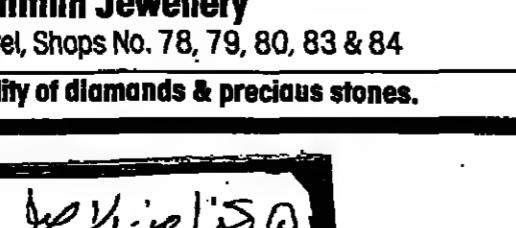
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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

HUMAN history becomes more and more a race between education and catastrophe — H.G. Wells, English writer-historian (1866-1946).

OPINION

Kuwait must remain firm

THE hijacking of the Kuwaiti airliner is a security crisis for the whole world. It is part of the tension which prevails in a world in which innocent people suffer.

The most dangerous thing, however, is to bow to the threats of the hijackers, who will receive much pleasure if their demands are met. The issue is not the demands they have made at this time. Today they want the release of prisoners; after that they may ask for ransom, and it is impossible to say the extent to which they would go following that.

Kuwait is a free society — its planes fly everywhere, Kuwaiti citizens travel to many countries and Kuwaiti embassies are in most countries. Kuwait's airliners, embassies and citizens are all easy targets for blackmail if the government's position is not strong and decisive in dealing with these hijackers.

During a meeting held by HH the Amir with the editors-in-chief of Kuwaiti newspapers, the Amir stressed that the hijackers seemed to think that the presence of some of the Sabah family members aboard the hijacked plane might weaken the government's firm stand.

HH stressed that the hijackers were totally wrong. The system in Kuwait does not differentiate among citizens — all are equal. These are indeed wise words of the man responsible for justice.

It must be remembered that any concessions made by the Kuwaiti government will not stop or be limited to this particular hijacking. These men may then be encouraged to kidnap individuals and to terrorise Kuwaiti establishments abroad.

A strong, decisive stand is the only way to stop these people and the wave of terrorism spreading throughout the world.

Our hearts are with the passengers still aboard the airplane, and we have nothing to give them except our prayers for their release and safety.

It is regrettable that this incident comes at a time when the presidency bureau of the Fifth Islamic Summit and the permanent committee of the Organisation of Islamic Conference are beginning their meetings in Kuwait. The incident could be aimed at disrupting this important Islamic meeting, which yielded positive results at the Islamic summit in Kuwait last year.

The Kuwaiti government dealt wisely with the hijacking of the Kuwaiti plane two years ago. The Kuwaiti government will show the same wisdom in cooperating with the Cypriot government in solving this dilemma, which is expected to leave victims behind.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

Jailed 17: Kuwait's Achilles' heel

By Philip Shehadi

SEVENTEEN jailed Arab terrorists are the Achille's heel of Kuwait, again sucked into Middle East violence yesterday with the murder of a Kuwaiti officer on a hijacked airliner to Cyprus.

The Kuwait Airways hijacking is the latest in a series of hostage-taking carried out throughout the region since 1984 on behalf of the 17.

Kuwait-based diplomats and Lebanese security officials say there is little doubt the hijack is the work of Shi'ite Muslim extremists linked to kidnappers holding about 25 foreign nationals in Lebanon.

Like-minded extremists, inspired by the Islamic revolution in Iran, the centre of Shi'ism, are also thought to have engineered a 1984 hijack of a Kuwait Airways Airbus to Tehran and a 1985 TWA hijack to Beirut.

Demanded

Then, as now, the gunmen demanded freedom for the 17 as its price for freeing the passengers. The Islamic Jihad group also demands the release of the 17 in exchange for foreign hostages it has held since 1984. Kuwait has repeatedly refused.

Target

The 17 also include 10 Iraqis, two Lebanese, one Kuwaiti and one stateless bedouin.

Kuwait has enjoyed a relative respite from internal sabotage over the past year and diplomats say Shi'ite extremists within the country appear to have lost momentum.

The local daily Al Rai Al Aam appeared to link the hijacking with Kuwait's support for Iraq in its war against Iran.

"It did not enter Kuwait's calculations that one day it would become party to a conflict, except for the tax imposed on it by its membership in the Arab nation and identity," it wrote in an editorial yesterday. (Reuter)

An opportunity to solve the Arab-Israeli conflict

Pressure may force Israel to be flexible

RARELY has an American secretary of state been willing to expose himself to rebuffs as George Shultz on his latest visit to the Middle East. But it is his view this may be the last real opportunity to set the stage for a negotiated solution of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

There is a new fluidity in the situation, as he sees it. On the Arab side King Hussein of Jordan must be aware that the radicalisation among the Palestinians is bound to undermine him and therefore make him more willing to enter into negotiations.

But he is holding back, waiting to see whether Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir will modify his position. And on the Israeli side new pressures inside Israel and among the American Jewish community are developing that may force the Israeli government to adopt a more flexible attitude.

Shultz' meeting with two Palestinian born Americans with close ties to the Palestine Liberation Organisation caused an uproar in Israel where it was seen as a breach of a commitment given by Henry Kissinger when he was secretary of state.

Shultz has come to the conclusions that his plan can only succeed if Palestinians are brought into the negotiating process. It represents a major change in American policy if the Palestinians are willing to show flexibility on their part.

In the controversy over the role of the international conference the United States is inclined to side with the Israelis in the sense that it should have no veto power over the substance of the negotiations or over agreements reached directly in bilateral negotiations.

This benign role of the international conference is currently unacceptable to the Soviet Union. As Eduard Shevardnadze said here the other day: "... An international conference with authority is at the centre of the process". The Syrian government too wants a conference that would have a certain amount of control over the negotiations to prevent any separate deals and to make sure that Jordan does not act as a stalking horse for the United States.

American officials concede that the conference entails risks the Soviet Union could exploit, but they hope to overcome those by an advance agreement on the ground rules under which it would function.

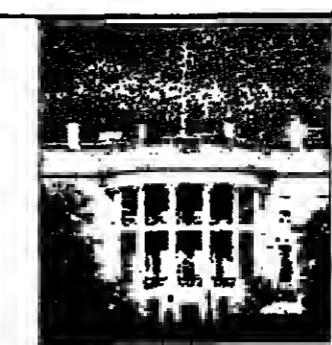
Originally, one of the main reasons for Shultz's trip to the Middle East was the prospect of an early election in Israel. It would have served to underscore the United States' sympathy with Foreign Minister Peres and, hopefully, helped to influence Israeli public opinion in his favour.

The Palestinian objection to the peace plan is that it is based on a two-state solution, a first interim stage and, about a year later, the final settlement. They fear that the interim stage, which calls for local elections to establish local administrations run by the Palestinians themselves, would become permanent and a final settlement would be postponed indefinitely.

However Shultz is convinced that an interim regime is essential to resolve the central issue: the transfer of land to the Palestinians in a rational way. The American experts believe that unless the interim regime can be

to be included in the party's presidential ticket.

This realisation is only begin-



Inside Washington

By Henry Brandon



YITZHAK SHAMIR

is well known, must have something to offer in exchange if they want to succeed.

The trouble with Shultz's position is that he has nothing more to offer than a warning that his mission may well coincide with a crucial psychological moment, which if ignored, may never recur, and lead to frustrations and far more serious confrontations than the current ones.

Nothing, in my memory of 40 years of reporting on American electoral politics, has shaken the Democratic Party as much as the sudden realisation that a black — Jesse Louis Jackson — may have

to be included in the party's presidential ticket.

This realisation is only beginning to sink in and none of the party's elders has a way out of a dilemma to which there is no good answer. Only a month ago nobody thought that Jackson would be in a position to claim a spot on the presidential ticket.

The assumption was that he would be in a good bargaining position to force the party at the convention to adjust its political programme to his demands. But since then he has been accumulating delegates in the primaries and the prospects are

that he may come to the convention with more delegates than Dukakis or only a few behind him.

Therefore if he continues to score in the remaining primaries, the party will face the following dilemma: If he wins a place on the presidential ticket, the Democrats are also certain to lose, not only because he is black, but because he stands politically too far to the left.

His economic policies, it would be feared, would bring another, and perhaps more serious, collapse of the stock market, his defence policies which include a 25 percent cut in the defence budget would be unacceptable to a majority of the voters and his welfare programmes would only further contribute to enlarging the budget deficit.

Depriving

But if the party finds ways of depriving him of what he and blacks generally consider would be due to him, blacks would stay at home, boycott the elections and thus help to defeat the Democratic candidate. In the long run it could do irreparable damage to the party and cost it its majority in the Senate. Americans are generally pleased with Jackson's success. It is an indication that racism is in sharp decline, at the same time they are stunned that it is happening so fast.

Jackson's personality, his charisma, the excitement he creates in the audiences, his quick and clever mind and his disarming sense of humour deserve most of the credit for his success.

The lackluster performances of his opponents has helped him too. At 47 he is relatively young and he need not be in a hurry, but all his friends say that he is. There are nine weeks left of primary races before the party convention in Atlanta, Georgia, an environment that should be to Jackson's advantage.

It is generally agreed that the news media have been treating him with kid-gloves, partly to avoid being accused of racism and partly because they did not take his candidacy seriously.

It will be interesting to see whether those gloves will be taken off now that he has become a serious competitor. I doubt whether editors will despatch swarms of investigative reporters to look into his past, how he managed to live relatively well and comfortably without ever having been anything else but the

presidential ticket.

for the most part — in 1984, when he made his first run for the presidency.

In January of that year he flew to Syria and won the release of a captured US Navy pilot. In the summer he visited Cuba and secured the release of dozens of Cuban political prisoners and jailed Americans.

At his campaign rallies this year, Jackson often invokes those gambits to suggest he has unique leadership talents and experience in dealing with men such as Cuban President Fidel Castro and Syria President Hafez Al-Assad.

But in the case of Noriega, he appeared to recognize he might have overplayed his hand.

After the criticism began to flow in, Jackson was at pains to stress he had not offered to be a direct mediator in the US-Panamanian crisis.

Risk

He said he had intervened because he knew Panama well, having visited the country several times, and because he feared President Reagan's strategy for ousting Noriega ran the risk of alienating Panama's people.

Asked by reporters at a campaign stop in Janesville, Wis., if he was planning a surprise trip to Panama, Jackson said: "I have no interest in doing that."

But his exchange of letters has enlashed his rivals and critics to make explicit criticisms of his political style.

Dukakis in particular had been unwilling to attack Jackson, partly because some Jackson supporters have been prone to interpret any criticism as motivated by racism.

With his opponents now seemingly free of that obstacle, Jackson may find himself just as anxious as the Reagan administration to remove the Noriega albatross from his neck.

A sign that he may now find himself on the critical hot seat more often came in a pair of satirical barbs from the pen of Herblock, the Washington Post's celebrated and widely syndicated political cartoonist.

The first, a few days ago, lampooned the press for subjecting the other candidates to rigorous critical questioning while greeting Jackson's every statement with adoring cries of "Oh, wow, Jesse."

Afghan guerrilla group undermines resistance

By Edward Girardet

Arab Wahhabi Muslim extremists, who provide substantial support, Hezb and another fundamentalist group, the Ittihad-e-Islami led by Abdul Rasul Sayaf, are pushing to restrict the movements of foreign relief personnel and Western journalists inside Afghanistan. Fundamentalist extremists want to get rid of any Westernising influences in what they think should be a purely Islamic "jihad" (holy war) against the Soviets.

This tendency is causing increasing concern among international relief workers — particularly since Hezb recently received more than a third of the aid supplied by the United States (\$715 million in 1987), Saudi Arabia, and other countries. (The aid is distributed by the Pakistanis.)

Reduced

"By supporting the fundamentalists, we are artificially giving them an influence which they should not command," said Dr Bernard Kouchner of the Paris-based Medecins du Monde recently. Only in the past few months, have Pakistan and the US reduced their backing of the group.

Kidnapped

Recently returned observers say Hezb has stepped up its efforts to strengthen its position in Afghanistan's northern provinces to the detriment of other resistance fronts. This appears to be playing directly into the hands of the Soviets, whose counterinsurgency strategy aims to divide the resistance.

Jurni in northern Afghanistan.

According to relief sources, the guerrillas kidnapped seven doctors of the Paris-based Medecins Sans Frontieres ("doctors without borders"), three French aid workers, and two Afghan translators. They also took a year's supply of medicine — 3-1/2 tons — destined for two clandestine hospitals in areas controlled by the Jamiat-e-Islami. The hijackers then met with a government militia group to decide whether to hand the French over to the Kabul authorities.

The controversy caught the 46-year-old black civil rights leader just as he was riding a wave of ballot-box successes, rising popularity and good publicity into the key presidential primary here in Wisconsin on Tuesday.

Unluckily for Jackson, who seemed taken aback by the way the issue heated up, it also came

Panama intervention controversy puts Jackson on defensive

By Tony Barber

KENOSHA, Wis. (Reuters): Democratic presidential candidate Jesse Jackson, by involving himself in the US dispute with Panama's Manuel Antonio Noriega, has left himself open to charges he is a clumsy meddler in foreign affairs.

Jackson's opponents say his foray into the Panama crisis shows he cannot resist the temptation to poke his nose where it is not needed, and that he lacks the sense of responsibility required in a president.

The controversy caught the 46-year-old black civil rights leader just as he was riding a wave of ballot-box successes, rising popularity and good publicity into the key presidential primary here in Wisconsin on Tuesday.

Just as some critics and political rivals had begun suggesting he has been getting a free ride from the press and should come under much closer scrutiny for his stands on various issues:

He put his Panama initiative into the spotlight himself on Monday by releasing a letter he had just received from Noriega, Panama's military强man. It responded to a written appeal from Jackson that Noriega resign for the sake of Panama's people.

Noriega, whose removal is a prime goal of the Reagan administration, turned down the appeal but said he recognised Jackson's reputation as a moral authority.

Coming from Noriega, who has been indicted on drug trafficking charges in Florida and who commands virtually no public sympathy in the United States, such praise may prove to be a very mixed blessing.

Jackson's closest rivals for the Democratic presidential nomination, Massachusetts governor Michael Dukakis and Tennessee Senator Albert Gore, were quick to accuse him of blundering into a problem that was none of his business.

"I think it's a bad idea for a private citizen to try to inject himself in this situation at this time," Dukakis told reporters on the campaign trail in Wisconsin.

Channels

The State Department said it had its own channels of communication with Noriega, if and when they were needed, and it felt those were good enough.

The Panama move recalled two similarly abrupt foreign policy gestures Jackson made — with favourable publicity results

TODAY IN HISTORY

1552 — France's King Henry II captures Metz and aligns with German Protestants.

1694 — Savoy's Duke Victor Amadeus begins siege of Casala in Italy.

1741 — Prussia's Frederick II defeats Austrian forces at Mollwitz and conquers Silesia.

1832 — French law excludes families of Charles X and Napoleon from France; Turkey declares war on Mohammed Ali, Khedive of Egypt.

1864 — Archduke Maximilian of Austria accepts title of Emperor of Mexico.

1898 — France obtains concession in China.

1932 — Paul von Hindenburg is re-elected German president over Adolf Hitler.

1945 — US troops liberate Nazi concentration camp at Buchenwald, Germany.

1952 — Soviet Union proposes all-German elections be held under a four-power commission instead of under United Nations supervision and rejects West's views on Germany's frontiers.

1961 — Adolf Eichmann, former Nazi, is put on trial as war criminal in an Israeli court in Occupied Jerusalem.

1963 — US atomic submarine Thresher fails to surface after a deep dive in the northern Atlantic with the loss of 129 lives — the worst submarine disaster in US history.

1972 — United States and Soviet Union sign treaty banning biological warfare.

1976 — Israel goes ahead with elections in occupied West Bank of Jordan despite rioting.



A 24-FOOT replica of the Oscar statue is lifted by helicopter, near the Hollywood sign in California on Friday. The statue will be part of the exterior decor for the 60th Annual Academy Awards on Monday. (Reuter wirephoto)



BRITISH Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and her husband Denis watch the performance of traditional Ottoman military band in Topkapi palace in Istanbul, while bodyguards make a wall around them. (Reuter wirephoto)



THREE Russian babushkas with nearly the same outfit queue up in line to buy Easter candles at Moscow's Novodevichy convent yesterday. Soviet women bring their traditional Easter cake, the kulich, to church to be blessed by a Russian-Orthodox priest. (Reuter wirephoto)



SUSPECTED gang member 'Billy Bop' declares his innocence from the window of a police bus on Friday as the Los Angeles Police launched a major anti-gang offensive. According to the police, gang members have been responsible for at least 85 killings this year in Los Angeles County. (Reuter wirephoto)



Peter Scudamore (left) falls off 'Strands of Gold' during the Aintree Grand National horse race in Liverpool, England, yesterday. During this race, the world's greatest steeple-chase, only nine of the 40 participants finished the event. Rhyme 'N' Reason, ridden by Brendan Powell, finished first. (Reuter wirephoto)



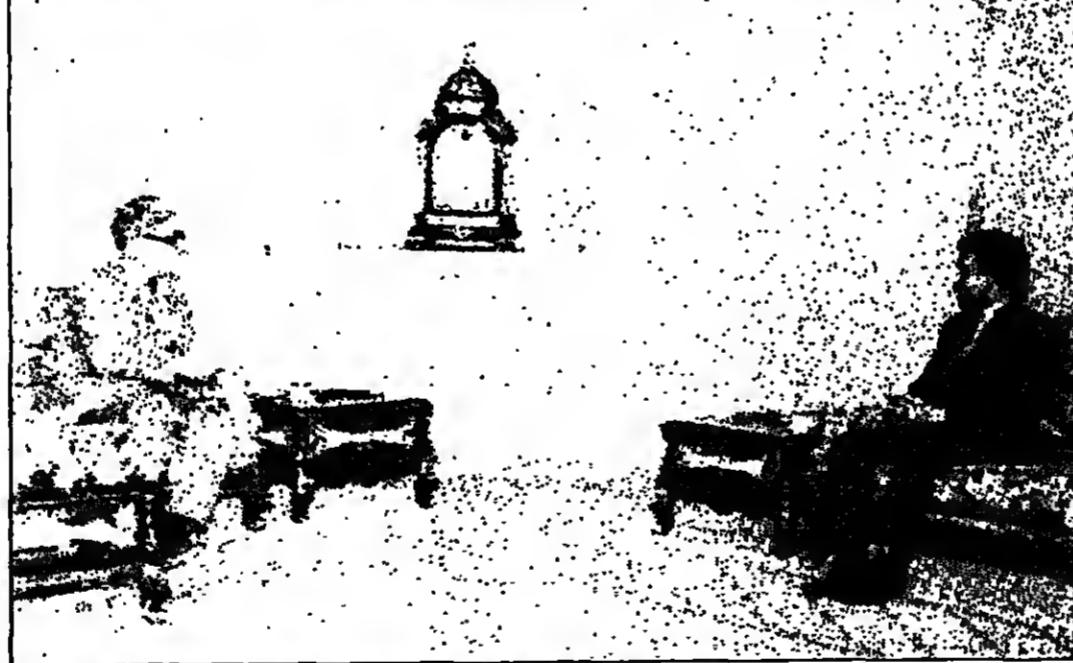
AN armed Israeli soldier forces a Palestinian youth from his home, to remove barricades from the street. (Reuter wirephoto)



SOLDIERS at Howard Air Force Base outside Panama City install barbed-wire barricades at the entrance to the base as part of increased security measures prompted by unrest in Panama. (Reuter wirephoto)



SOVIET ice-hockey player Vyacheslav Fetisov (left), shown in action at the Winter Olympics in Calgary in this file photo, has signed a \$500,000 contract to play for the New Jersey Devils in the National Hockey League, a senior Soviet sports official said. Finland's Pekka Tuomisto follows at right. (Reuter wirephoto)



BRITISH Foreign Minister Sir Geoffrey Howe (left) meets the Sultan of Brunei Hassanal Bolkiah Muizzaddin Wadahullah at the Nurul Iman Palace yesterday. Howe is currently on an official visit to Brunei. (Reuter wirephoto)



TWO Filipina bar-girls hold placards affirming their support for the retention of huge American military bases in the Philippines. The two were part of a group of hospitality girls who held a demonstration in front of the Subic naval base in Olongapo City yesterday. (Reuter wirephoto)



CONTRA commandante Tono talks to reporters through the window of a departing bus on Friday after the abrupt suspension of peace talks between the Contras and their Sandinista opponents at this customs station on the Costa Rican border. The two aides broke off talks when they could not agree on the methods of implementing an agreed-to ceasefire. (Reuter wirephoto)



THOUSANDS of revellers to Tokyo's Ueno Park enjoy a weekend view of cherry blossoms in full bloom. More than 250,000 people turned out yesterday to view the blossoms at this Tokyo park, undeterred by a freak snow-storm on Friday. (Reuter wirephoto)



ANTI-APARTHEID campaigner Archbishop Desmond Tutu (left) meets Anglican Bishop George Kauluma, bishop of the South African-run territory of Namibia, during a visit to the former German colony during which Tutu demanded Pretoria give Namibians their freedom. (Reuter wirephoto)

Hollywood gears up for annual self-congratulations

How to win an Oscar in ten easy lessons

By Alan Stanbrook

EVERY year between January 1 and a variable date in spring (this time April 11), Hollywood agents spend a small fortune of other people's money trying to steer an Oscar to their clients' eager hands.

Winning ooe raises the ante next time an actor's fees are being discussed and means bigger commissions for the agent whose adroit publicity campaign delivers the goods on Oscar night. Shed any illusions that Oscars reward the best of anything. They are a marketing exercise tout court.

Who gives Oscars? The grandly named Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences does. This is a glorified trade organisation set up in 1927 as a cultural front when Hollywood was under attack from numerous religious and moral watchdogs. Its membership, elected by their peers, is drawn from practising film makers. Oscars are their way of congratulating each other for a job well done. And since Hollywood only recognises box-office success, no film that is not a big money-spinner is ever named best of its year.

In each category of Oscar (best script, best editor, etc) there are normally five nominees. These are selected by Academy members of the same craft. Thus actors nominate other actors, cameramen and so forth. Once the five nominees are chosen, Academy mem-



Best Actresses (left to right), Diane Keaton in *Annie Hall* (1977), Jane Fonda in *Coming Home* (1979), Sally Field in *Norma Rae* (1980) Cindy Spacek in *Coal Miner's Daughter* (1980), Katharine Hepburn in *On Golden Pond* (1982).

bers then vote in all major categories to arrive at the winners. This encourages conservative judgements. To refresh their memories, the Academy mounts special screenings for members during the currency of the ballot. But members are not required to attend or even to have seen all the nominees when they cast their votes.

Corrupt

Nobody has ever called the Oscar campaign corrupt, but Academy members, like everybody else, are susceptible to skilful promotion. That's why artists hire agents. Here, based on past campaigns, are 10 "commandments" that may not guarantee victory but have, over the years, put many doubtful contenders in with a fighting chance.

- Thou shalt not release thy film too soon. Academy members have short memories. Movies and performances that were admired in the summer can be hard to recall by the following spring. To be eligible for an Oscar, a film must have played in Los Angeles for at least a week by December 31. So, open it in Christmas week to qualify, withdraw it at once from circulation and then re-open it when the nominations are announced and audiences are most keen to see it.
- Thou shalt take unto thyself whole-page advertisements in the trade press with a simple, uncluttered message: the name of the actor, his role and just three magic words — "For your consideration."
- Thou shalt not disenchant the easily misled, especially in advertisements, if they are inclined to mistake a nomination for the actual award.
- Thus shalt plaster thy face with make-up that thy features may be unrecognisable to them that vote for thee. For mysterious reasons this passes infallibly for great acting. Winning practitioners include Marlon Brando ("The Godfather"), Sir John Mills ("Ryan's Daughter") and Frederic March ("Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde").
- Thou shalt not allow considerations of good taste to rule out the sentimental appeal of physical handicaps, for Academy heartstrings are easily tugged. Harold Russell (armless in "The Best Years of Our Lives"), Marlee Matlin (deaf in "Children of a Lesser God") and Linda Hunt (under-

- sized in "The Year of Living Dangerously") all won sympathy awards more appropriate to their courage than to their performances.
- Thou shalt cast thyself furiously against type. However foolish it will be taken for a significant widening of thy range. Successful diversifiers include fowl-mouthed Sir John Gielgud in "Arthur", saintly Bing Crosby in "Going My Way", dowdy Grace Kelly in "The Country Girl" and Ronald Colman, who, in a "Double Life," contrived to murder "Othello" as well as Desdemona.
- Thou shalt be no better than thou shouldst be. Playing strumpets is a surefire short cut to glory, as Elizabeth Taylor in "Butterfield 8"; Jane Fonda in "Klute" and Shirley Jones in "Elmer Gantry" can testify.
- Thou shalt not be too good all the time. Garbo and Cary Grant never won best performance awards. Better to be atrocious most of the time and strike lucky with a single larger-than-life role, as John Wayne did in "True Grit".
- Thou shalt die nobly in the end. There's nothing like a tragic finale for raking in the votes — witness William Hurt in "Kiss of the Spider Woman" and Christopher Walken in "The Deer Hunter."

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- And much good may all this do anybody. Though energetically pursued, Oscars often put a jinx on a career and register its high water mark rather than a new beginning. Hands up whoever can now recall past winners like Shirley Booth, Art Carney, Jack Albertson, Lila Kedrova and Miyoshi Umeki? Among recent Oscar winners Shirley MacLaine and Paul Newman are just two who have yet to appear in another film. Henry Fonda died soon after winning his; Peter Finch was dead already. Maybe they were telling us something.

- Elmer Gantry" can testify.
- Thou shalt play drunk (Lee Marvin in "Cat Ballou"), Claire Trevor in "Key Largo"; mad (Jack Nicholson in "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest"); Joanne Woodward in "The Three Faces of Eve"; and old before thy time (Robert Donat in "Goodbye Mr Chips" and Paul Muni in "The Story of Louis Pasteur").
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'Seat-savers' for the rich and famous

By Russell Kish

HOLLYWOOD. (UPI) — The estimated one billion people who will be watching this year's Academy Award telecast undoubtedly will notice the famous faces occupying all the good seats — but take a second look.

About 100 unknown faces can be spotted sitting in those chairs as well. They're the seat-savers.

On Oscar night, they line up on either side of the auditorium and whenever a celebrity leaves his or her seat, a seat-saver slides in until the star returns.

Christal Karnaze, now a publicist in Washington, D.C., once held such a job when she worked for ABC Television in Los Angeles.

"It was really one of the more sedate broadcasts that I'd seen," Karnaze said. "Your big winners were gone, although I do remember that almost everybody was saying they just have to give the Oscar to Fonda, the sentimental favorite."

"As the people reclaim their seats, you get up and take a place at the back of the line. But if you're lucky, you might get the seat from somebody who didn't show."

Recalling her experience at the 1981 Oscar ceremonies, Karnaze said she was lucky indeed.

"I got to sit in the third row before the performance started and I sat through the entire Johnny Carson monologue," she said.

"It's exciting because you are where the action is, and it's a good way to see the Oscars because you are right there on the floor. I mean, even if you were to get a balcony seat you're so far away that you might as well be watching it on television."

At the same time, however, Karnaze said the seat-savers do their best not to stand out, so they try to appear nonchalant to the point of looking expressionless.

"I could pretty much tell when I'm watching the ceremony now who the seat-savers are," Karnaze said.

"They're just staring straight ahead and not interacting."

"I mean, just because by chance you are sitting next to a celebrity, you don't want to interrupt them with your own little ramblings. You feel you know these people, because you've seen them, but you need to grant them their own private world."

Her experience in 1981, she added, was dampened somewhat because that year most of the big winners were absent. No-shows included the aging Henry Fonda, named best actor for *On Golden Pond*, and the best actress winner, Katharine Hepburn, for the same movie.

"Basically, ABC employees are asked about a month before the ceremony if they want to be a seat-saver," Karnaze said. "You show up about three hours before the broadcast and it's all pretty straightforward."

"I also remember all the seat-savers dying to see Kate Hepburn and being disappointed."

Still, an admitted stargazer, Karnaze said she wouldn't have missed the chance to participate.

"I did see one of my favourites, Gregory Peck," she said. "He had just finished presenting an award and came back in (to the auditorium), and I didn't even realize who I was standing next to. Something happened, and I turned to him, and I said, 'Isn't that wonderful?'

"And he said, in that distinctive voice of his 'yes, it's wonderful.'

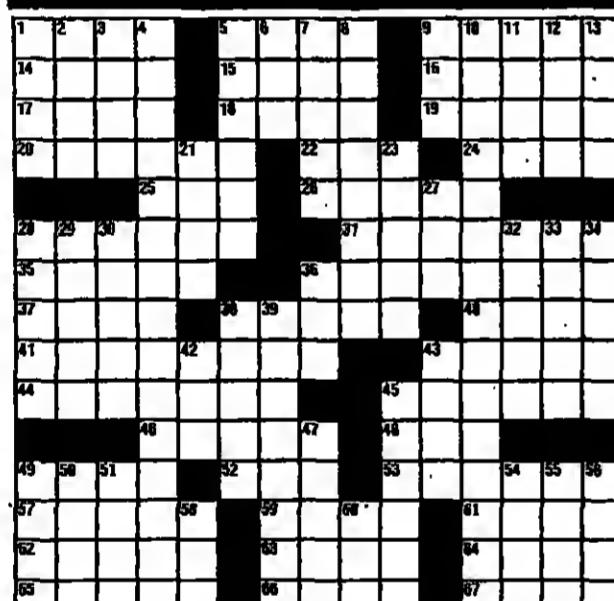
The seat-savers will be ready and able again on April 11 but Joe Disanti, of ABC's guest relations department — which handles the logistics of the programme — said he was 'not at liberty' to discuss specifics.

"It's one facet of our (ABC's) involvement, that's about all I can tell you," he said. "It's really no big thing and that's the way they (the academy) would like to have it."



Meryl Streep in *Sophie's Choice* (1983), Shirley MacLaine in *Terms of Endearment* (1984), Sally Field in *Places in the Heart* (1985), Geraldine Page in *The Trip to Bountiful* (1986), Marlee Matlin in *Children of a Lesser God* (1987).

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 Shepherd of the Bible
- 2 Sprightly
- 3 Texas shrine
- 4 "— Gun, Will Travel"
- 5 Unique person
- 6 Diabolical
- 7 Biblical dill
- 8 Gallery near the Thames
- 9 Set out
- 10 Next to
- 11 Neither dam or rep.
- 12 Conductor
- 13 Klemperer
- 14 Palm Beach shade
- 15 Bedeck
- 16 Hormuz
- 17 Ardent
- 18 Some exems
- 19 Distributes
- 20 Sandburg
- 21 Misinformers
- 22 Trumpeter from New Orleans
- 23 Igloos?
- 24 "...after they've seen —"
- 25 City of S. Italy
- 26 Toolbox item
- 27 Coward et al.
- 28 Malay gibbon
- 29 Composer
- 30 Albin
- 31 Undarmino
- 32 Carnegie or Jackson
- 33 Good-bye, amigo
- 34 Precisely
- 35 Word of honor
- 36 Variety show of a type
- 37 Ravise
- 38 Fay of "King Kong"
- 39 Mountain spur
- 40 Printer's order
- 41 King Cole et al.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

HEMS	CERE	DINED
EVIL	ALOU	ROUTE
LENA	COOP	ATLAS
DRIVE UP THE WALL		
ASE ONE'S		
ECLAT	SARGE	BAH
GRAVES	LILI	LOCO
GET ONES SO ANDERUP		
EOEN	REF	ERGATE
OOR	EVANS	ASSES
ORAI	ELF	
RUFFLE	FEATHERS	
BANTU	VAIN	FYDE
RIDER	ERNE	RETE
OLENT	LUGS	DNER

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

A BIT OF MAKE-BELIEVE

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♦ A 5
▼ 10 7
◆ Q J 6 5 4
◆ A Q 9 4

WEST

♦ 10 9 8 3 2
▼ K Q 9
◆ K 3 2
◆ 8 2

EAST

♦ J 7 6
▼ A J 8 2
◆ 8
♦ J 10 6 5 3

SOUTH

♦ K 4
▼ 6 5 4 3
◆ A 10 9 7
♦ K 7

The bidding:

South: West: North: East:
1 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ Pass
2 ♦ Pass 3 ♦ Pass
3 NT Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ten of ♦

While bridge is a mirror of life in many respects, there is one important area of difference. Highway robbery is frowned upon in the best circles, but meets with praise, and sometimes laughter, at the bridge table. Sitting South on this hand from a team match was one of the country's leading women players, Lynn Deas of Schenectady, N.Y.

North's raise to two diamonds was inverted, showing a good hand

but denying possession of a four-card major. Therefore, South's bid of two hearts, in theory, showed a heart stopper, although in practice it is doubtful whether it would have stood the test of an enemy attack. After North indicated club strength, South continued on to three no trump.

West made his normal lead of the top of his spade sequence, and declarer saw at once that, if the diamond finesse were to succeed, the cocontract was beyond reproach. Should it fail, however, the defenders would be in position to cash four heart tricks to defeat the contract.

Declarer had already diverted attention from the heart suit in the bidding. To reinforce that impression, she won the ace of spades and dropped the queen from her hand! When West won the first diamond trick with the king, he saw no reason not to continue spades—indeed, that might have been imperative had declarer held the ace of hearts and not the king of clubs. The result? The contract rolled home.

West might have done better to hold up the king of diamonds one round. That would have permitted East to discard the jack of spades on the second diamond, making the heart shift easier to find.

THE WIZARD OF ID

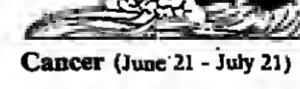
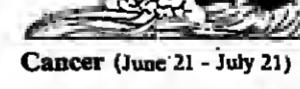
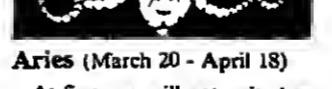


By Grant Parker and Johnny Hart

B.C.



YOUR STARS



SNIPPETS

Aquino grieves over palace keeper's death

MALACANANG'S chief housekeeper, Priscilla Aragon, died last week of cancer, with President Aquino at her bedside.

The President's special assistant, Florida Ruth Romero, told reporters that Aquino stayed by Aragon's side for about two hours until she died at 3:25 pm at the Makati Medical Centre.

Aquino, her eyes swollen from crying, refused to talk to newsmen when she arrived at the Premier Guest House from the hospital.

Ms. Aragon, popularly known as "Fritzi," served as household administrator of the guest house and Aquino's residence on Arlegui street for about two years.

According to her sister, Vicki Gonzales, Aragon and her family discovered she was stricken with cancer last January.

Ms. Aragon was then confined at the John Long Hospital in San Francisco.

Pedophile syndicate in operation

FOURTEEN alien criminal syndicates, mostly involved in child prostitution in Europe, are still operating in Pagsanjan, Laguna allegedly with the blessings of some local government officials. The Commission on Immigration and Deportation (CID) revealed last week.

Immigration Commissioner Miriam Defensor Santiago said some suspected pedophiles and other aliens in Pagsanjan are allegedly making a lot of money selling abroad pictures of Filipino boys in obscene poses.

"Our country is really being advertised as a pedophile tourist resort in Europe. These people don't have the right to be here."

The 22 alleged pedophiles who were arrested recently in the CID raid in Pagsanjan constitute only a small fraction of criminals there, Santiago said.

She warned them, including those allegedly protecting them, that the CID crackdown has "only just begun."

Some local government officials are allegedly against the CID move, saying the pedophile industry is part of the town's economic recovery programme.

Pagsanjan residents are also reportedly divided in their stand on the presence of pedophiles in town.

Fifty girls arrested in sauna raids

FIFTY young girls suspected to be prostitutes and a British national were arrested by Manila policemen during raids on two sauna bath parlors and a disco pub in Ermita, Sta. Cruz and Binondo.

Lt Antonio Sapalo, deputy chief of the tactical force of the Western Police District, said the girls, some as young as 15 years old, had no health permit.

Sapalo said the Briton was nabbed after he tried to stop the raid on the Thriller Disco Pub. The foreigner, who identified himself as the pub's manager, was detained for further investigation.

Brig. Gen. Alfredo S. Lim, WPD superintendent, had ordered a campaign against all vice, bold shows and prostitution houses in the city.

The WPD chief warned vice operators and owners of establishments being used as fronts for prostitution that they will be arrested if found operating vice joints in Manila.

Farmer kills 4, is stoned to death

ZAMBOANGA City: A farmer, who prayed hard that he be given supernatural powers, lost his mind and ran amuck in barangay Mangagaon, Polangco, Zamboanga del Norte last Holy Thursday, killing four others before he was stoned to death by angry neighbours.

A constabulary report identified the slain amok as Pablo Bingoy, 33, of barangay Mangagaon, Polangco.

The report said that Bingoy became violent after he closed himself in his room for several days and prayed that he be given "anting-anting."

According to Bingoy's wife, her husband suddenly ran out of his room, took a 19-inch bolo and attacked a pig in the pen of their neighbour.

He later attacked the pig owner, Leonardo Casipang, 74, who died on the spot and two other members of the Casipang family. Presentacion Casipang, 34, and Leohit, 6. The two also died on the spot.

US accused of aiding Gringo

(REUTER): Philippine congressional leaders said that they would investigate allegations the US was involved in the escape of coup leader, Gregorio Honasan, in an attempt to pressure President Corazon Aquino into keeping American bases in the Philippines.

As the Army threw a dragnet across the country in search of the fugitive colonel, the Lower House deputy speaker, Antonio Cuenco, said that Colonel Honasan's escape "may be considered as an arm-twisting tactic" by the US.

US and Philippine officials began a review of an agreement



Gregorio Honasan

allowing American forces the use of Clark Air Force Base and Subic Naval Base. "We will look into allegations that there is a CIA factor," Cuenco told reporters.

Earlier, Representative Verano Garduce, of the minority People's Party, said in a press statement that Col. Honasan's escape came just before the start of the bases talks.

He urged the military not to allow itself "to be a pawn in the elaborate schemes of the United States to preserve ... its military and political domination in our country."

New travel tax scheme endorsed

THE House Committee on Tourism has endorsed a proposal calling for the reduction of the travel tax for Filipinos and expatriate residents.

The committee headed by Rep. Honoro Aquino, former tourism undersecretary said the reduction would make "travel more affordable to the majority of the Filipinos."

Under the new tax scheme, the travel economy class is pegged at P600 (\$20); business, P1,000; and first class, P1,500. The present tax is P1,620 for economy and P3,200 for first class.

The Aquino proposal is actually a compromise on an earlier bill filed to abolish the travel tax while increasing the

airport terminal fee from P200 to P300.

Another proposal submitted by the Department of Tourism (DOT) recommended a uniform travel of P1,000 as travel tax.

Tourism Secretary Jose Antonio U. Gonzalez estimated that the reduced travel tax scheme would cost the government P700 million a year.

But Aquino stressed the promised bill would resolve the dispute that may arise, mainly over revenue losses.

The compromised bill, would also incorporate tax exemptions for government officials on official trips, children below 12 years and non-resident Filipino citizens staying in the country for 120 hours, Aquino said.

War on public smoking

SEN. Ernesto Herrera has filed a bill seeking to ban smoking in public conveyances and in enclosed public places.

Senate Bill No. 375 prohibits a person from smoking aboard public utility vehicles and in hotels, moviehouses, educational buildings, offices and commercial edifices, auditoriums, and similar structures where people assemble.

Violators face a penalty of 10 days imprisonment or a fine of not less than P500 but not more than P1,000, or both.

The owner, operator, manager, his employee or agent, or any law enforcement officer who knowingly allows smoking-in

these places shall be meted the same penalty.

Owners or operators of public conveyances or of enclosed public places shall be required to post "no smoking" signs in conspicuous sections within the premises.

Violation of such requirement shall entail a fine of P500 to P1,000.

Herrera said the main objective of the proposed measure is to reduce the hazards of smoking to a person's health and well-being, as it has been confirmed that smoking has a positive link to lung cancer, chronic bronchitis, emphysema and various other ailments.

Nine Filipino boxers in international ratings

NINE Filipino boxers, led by world flyweight champion Rolando Bohol and former titleholder Dodie Boy Penalosa, were listed in the latest monthly ratings of the International Federation (IBF) based in Richmond, Virginia.

Bill Brennan, chairman of the IBF championship and ratings committee, said the Filipino fighters who made the roll of honour were: Rolando Bohol, fly-weight champion; Penalosa, No. 2 flyweight contender; Jomgong Pacquing, No. 1 light-welterweight who will challenge for the world title of American Buddy McGirt at the Madison Square Garden this summer; Ariel Duran, No. 7 junior lightweight; Ernie Cataluna, No. 7 bantamweight; Sonny Vidal, No. 2 light-flyweight; Tacy Macalos, No. 10 light-flyweight; Pretty Boy Lucas, No. 3 mini-flyweight; and Eric Chavez, No. 3 mini-flyweight.

The top five perennial late-comers were Senators Alvarez, 17 times; John Osmena, 12; Sotero Laurel and Santanina Rasul, both 10 times; and Aquino, nine.

Those who were absent most of the time during the sessions were Senators Ernesto Herrera, 10 times but claimed that on seven of them he was on "official mission"; Leticia Shahani, 10 times also and five of them on "official mission"; Victor Ziga, nine times; Marimont Tamano and Joseph Estrada, seven times each, but three were also registered "official mission."

Minority Floor Leader, Juan Ponce Enrile would have been one of the outstanding senators with perfect attendance but this "early bird" in the session hall was absent on the celebration of EDSA revolution anniversary last Feb 22.

The former defence chief attended the 42-day sessions 41 times, each time arriving 10 to 15 minutes ahead.

It is two years now since the new government of President Aquino assumed power from the US-backed Marcos dictatorship. President Aquino, in pre and post election statements, made it clear that the issue of the bases will be submitted to the people in a referendum.

What are the issues regarding the bases? Are the Filipino people publicly aware of its strategic importance in the ASEAN region?

Why are the Filipinos deeply divided on the issue concerning its presence in the Philippines?

Historical background

In the year 1947, a document was signed known as the Military Bases Agreement wherein the U.S. was given a 99-year lease to around 23 sites for military bases on an area expanding to 210,000 hectares.

The agreement spelled out the status of U.S. Armed Forces present in the country. In return for the above lease, the U.S. government committed itself to the development of the Philip-

pines Armed Forces in a separate agreement (also in 1947) known as the Military Assistance Agreement.

In 1947, the U.S. and the Philippine government, agreed to mutual assistance in the event of unfriendly forces attacking and they signed another treaty known as the Mutual Defence Treaty of 1951 which was further amended and revised in 1953.

The 1953 agreement called for U.S. economic and military assistance to the Philippines in the form of equipment, materials and other forms of aid.

In 1959, the U.S. bases lease was reduced from 99 years to 25 years in the document known as the Serrano-Bahlen Memorandum of Agreement.

The Philippine sovereignty over the bases was spelled out in the agreement and further stated that the U.S. government would consult the Philippine government any time the bases are used for combat operations. The 1959 agreement reaffirmed the Philippine ownership of the bases' lands.

Since 1947, the Military Bases

Agreement has been amended 34 times and the area covered reduced from roughly 210,000 hectares to 82,000 hectares.

The Filipino People and the U.S. bases

Despite the granting of Philippine independence in 1946, the Filipino people have relied greatly on America for economic growth and development.

Over 340 U.S. companies are operating in the country covering diversified fields related to engineering, consultancy, banking, finance, agriculture, mining and production of consumer goods.

Likewise, almost two million Filipino migrants are in various states in America and roughly five million Filipino relatives in the Philippines are directly economically benefited by them.

The U.S. government has opened its immigration doors to a never ending exodus of Filipinos who are out to seek a better life in America.

In Asia, no other country has absorbed intense American values, tradition and culture as in the Philippines.

THE families or heirs of all the 38 Filipino seamen killed on board two Iranian tankers hit by missiles in the Gulf War last March 19 will all get death benefits.

This assurance was made by Audun B. Aasheim, president of Manila Strait International, the official crewing agency in the Philippines of the National Iranian Tanker Co., owners of the ill-fated vessels I/t Avaj and I/t Sand-

ands.

Confirmed dead were Rodolfo

Bajarin, Danilo Ahu, Warlito

Tejano, Porfirio Regondola,

Filomeno Lleras, Ricardo Jas-

min, Basil Bakri, Renato Felipe,

Efrain Horial, Nelson Otero,

Romulo Panaguton, Ernesto de

Vera, Benedict Mones, Rogelio

Lordo, Mariano Acio Jr.,

Roberto Collayan and Reynaldo

Baquinor, who were all on board

the I/t Avaj.

Confirmed dead on board the

I/t Sandands were Remigio

Death benefits for seamen's families

Tumagan, David General,

Ernesto Brucal, Leonardo Alex-

ander, Hipolito Famorcan, San-

tiago Bayon-on, Medardo

Oclaril, Teolito Caubalejo,

Jignedo Boria Jr., Bernardo

Flores, Wenceslaus Cornelio,

Ernesto Completo, Ariston

Cubio, Jonathan Tienda,

Teodulfo Alcero, Sixto Mag-

banua, Philander Dalida,

Roberto Jose, Samon Espin-

cilla, Rodrigo Taliser and

Eddie Fernandez.

Confirmed dead were Rodolfo

Bajarin, Danilo Ahu, Warlito

Tejano, Porfirio Regondola,

Filomeno Lleras, Ricardo Jas-

min, Basil Bakri, Renato Felipe,

Efrain Horial, Nelson Otero,

Romulo Panaguton, Ernesto de

Vera, Benedict Mones, Rogelio

Lordo, Mariano Acio Jr.,

Roberto Collayan and Reynaldo

Baquinor, who were all on board

the I/t Avaj.

Confirmed dead on board the

I/t Sandands were Remigio

Tumagan, David General,

Ernesto Brucal, Leonardo Alex-

ander, Hipolito Famorcan, San-

tiago Bayon-on, Medardo

Oclaril, Teolito Caubalejo,

Jignedo Boria Jr., Bernardo

Flores, Wenceslaus Cornelio,

Ernesto Completo, Ariston

Cubio, Jonathan Tienda,

Teodulfo Alcero, Sixto Mag-

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Dubai may extend trade zone tax-free scheme for 15 years

ABU DHABI, April 9, (Opecna): Dubai is likely to extend a tax-free period for investors operating in the emirate's Jebel Ali free trade zone for a further 15 years, according to zone chairman Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem.

Speaking to reporters here, Sulayem said that 180 international and local companies from 26 countries were currently licensed to operate in the zone, which is celebrating its third anniversary this year.

Investment

He pointed out that total foreign investment in the zone had already reached around \$500 million, stressing that this figure was likely to double in the "next few years" due to global interest in its "excellent facilities."

Sulayem noted that the United States had invested \$150-200 million in the zone followed by the Gulf Cooperation Council with 100 million and the European Economic Community with 50 million.

Jebel Ali was one of the fastest growing free trade centres in the world, said Sulayem, adding that multinational companies were looking to the zone with the potential of covering over one billion people in the peripheral market and beyond.

He attributed the success of the venture to the marketing efforts of the zone's governing authority which had sent delegations to the United States, Japan and Europe to attract investors.

Nigeria, Japan sign debt rescheduling agreement

LAGOS, April 9, (Opecna): Nigeria is to reschedule debts of around \$300 million to Japan following an agreement signed here.

The accord, finalised by Nigerian Minister of Finance and National Planning Dr Chu S.P. Okonye and Takao Shibata, counsellor to the Japanese Embassy here, covers long-term official loans and short and medium-term commercial debts insured by the Japanese government.

Cooperation

The Japanese official said that the agreement was signed in accordance with the consent of the Paris Club to reschedule Nigeria's debts to individual member countries after due negotiations.

He stressed that the rescheduling agreement would open new ways for future cooperation between both countries, adding that his country was willing to assist Nigeria "in all possible ways."

TCS official to expand business in Kuwait

 DEEPAK Vaish (above), the Bahrain based Manager Gulf operations of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) visited Kuwait last week to review on-going projects and also to explore the possibility of expanding business in Kuwait.

TCS is a \$40 million management and computer consultancy organisation with its head office in Bombay employing 1,200 professionals and carries out assignments on a variety of computer systems all over the world. TCS is a part of the TATA group of companies.

Vaish reviewed the study TCS is conducting for Alghanim Industries for identifying a long-term computerisation strategy with G.S. Khandelwal. He was assisted by Suman Kapur a senior consultant of TCS who is carrying out the study and the TCS' representative in Kuwait.

Vaish also met some of the potential clients whom he found beneficial to TCS' wide-ranging operations.

Lawmakers finish bill

US trade balance improves

WASHINGTON, April 9. (Reuters): The US trade deficit is expected to show signs of continued improvement this week as lawmakers strive to complete comprehensive legislation that would change US trade policy dramatically.

The government on Thursday will report the US trade deficit for February and many analysts expect it to provide further evidence that the US trade balance is starting to improve after five successive years of record deficits.

Most economists say they expect the February trade gap will be down from the \$12.44 billion deficit in January.

Joseph Carson, senior economist at Chemical Bank in New York, foresees a trade gap of about \$11.7 billion for the month, reflecting a rebound in US exports and little change in imports.

Trend

Many economists and administration officials see the trend of rising US exports and levelling off declining imports continuing as a result of the lower dollar value.

Economists and business leaders are concerned whether major US trading partners will be able to absorb enough imports from the United States to keep

the US economy expanding as it shifts from a major importer to a major exporter.

Carl Weinberg, chief economist at High Frequency Economics in New York, said that, except for West Germany, America's trading partners will enjoy strong economic growth this year.

"We've turned the corner on trade," Weinberg said. Consequently, the dollar has fallen enough in value, he added.

If the current trend continues, with exports rising and imports levelling off, the US could reverse the trade deficit in about 12 to 15 months, he said.

Just how well the US trade balance is improving will be clearer later this month when the government reports gross national product data for the first quarter of this year. The GNP report shows the actual volume of trade, while the monthly trade report to be issued on Thursday shows the value, which is influenced by the declining dollar.

"I believe people will be surprised ... as to how much the trade deficit has improved," Carson said.

The improving US trade picture, though, has not diminished Congress' will to pass major

trade legislation.

"The trade situation is perceived to be an enormous problem," said one congressional staffer. "You need more than what we've got now to say there is a substantive trend (toward improvement)."

Blame

Furthermore, should the economy begin to falter in this election year, the trade deficit, along with the huge budget deficit, would be singled out by politicians for blame, he noted.

A slowdown in the current economic expansion, now in its 65th month, would give Democrats, trying to use the trade issue to their political advantage, ammunition in their battle to win control of the White House from Republicans.

But the improving trade deficit has strengthened the administration's bargaining position in its negotiations with the lawmakers to get the more controversial provisions taken out of the legislation.

"If the numbers had remained the same or worsened it would have put the administration in a much weaker bargaining position," said a congressional staffer.

The US trade deficit in 1987

was a record \$171.2 billion up from a record \$156.2 billion in 1986.

House and Senate negotiators expect to complete work on omnibus trade legislation in about two weeks. The bill would give the US trade representative more power to deal with unfair trade practices by trading partners. It would also increase the number of unfair trade cases investigated and speed up the decision-making process on retaliation.

A number of provisions the administration called unacceptable have been removed from the legislation. Most notable was the Gephardt amendment, named after its sponsor Congressman Richard Gephardt, a Missouri Democrat who ended his presidential bid last month after poor showings at the polls.

The measure would have required retaliation against countries that achieved persistent large trade surpluses with the United States because of unfair practices.

Also yet to be resolved by the House and Senate negotiators is a measure that would require greater disclosure of foreign investments in the United States. The Reagan administration has expressed concern it would dis-

courage foreign investment and thus drive up interest rates.

The lawmakers will have to resolve that issue when they take up the legislation again on Monday.

Lawmakers also are likely to review some of the more controversial provisions of the final bill before it goes before the full House and Senate.

One provision opposed by the administration would require companies to give advance notice of plant closing and layoffs to workers.

A proposed ban on imports from Toshiba Machine Co for three years for selling sensitive equipment to the Soviet Union also was likely to be reviewed, a congressional source said.

The feeling among some trade lobbyists is that these more controversial measures will be removed from the final bill.

"We will get a bill the president can sign," said William Archery, Vice Chairman of the US Chamber of Commerce.

He said some of the concern over the trade bill being too protectionist might have been excessive.

"There was this feeling that this (legislation) was going to be a draconian, awful thing and that is not the case," he said.

World Business Summary

E.Germany to step up trade ties with Iran

TEHRAN, April 9. (Opecna): East Germany is keen to increase its volume of trade with Iran to \$300 million, Foreign Trade Minister Gerhard Beil announced in East Berlin yesterday.

He said during talks with Iranian ambassador Hamid Reza Asefi that his country was willing to purchase non-oil goods from Iran in addition to quantities of crude. Beil stressed that East Germany would take an active part in Tehran's annual international trade fair, adding that a variety of companies had expressed interest in stepping up the purchase of non-oil goods from Iran. He pointed out that in agreement had already been signed for the import of Iranian textile goods.

Beil highlighted the success of Iran's participation in the international Leipzig exhibition last month which, he said, was "testimony to its vast economic potential."

In an earlier meeting with Gerhard Trauttmann, East German Minister for Construction of General Machinery, Agricultural Machinery and Vehicles, Asefi said that Iran was set to export industrial goods and agricultural products to East Germany.

Third World signs bilateral accords on trade tariffs

BELGRADE, April 9. (Reuters): More than 40 developing countries, members of the Group of 77 (G-77), have signed bilateral agreements on trade tariffs and concessions at a meeting in Belgrade, G-77 officials said yesterday.

Marko Koska, chairman of the G-77 meeting working on establishing a global system of trade preferences (GSTP) among developing countries, told reporters the bilateral accords have paved the way for a multilateral agreement to be signed by the G-77 ministers here next week. The multilateral agreement would be binding on all signatories, he said.

GSTP officials said the agreement was likely to enhance mutual trade among developing countries, handicapped by a huge foreign debt, falling prices of raw materials and "protectionist" policies on the world market. Koska said other G-77 countries would be able to join in later, under conditions set by the Belgrade meeting.

He said many G-77 countries were in favour of increased cooperation with China, which has expressed a desire to join the GSTP, but there were legal obstacles, since China was not a member of the Group of 77.

Ceausescu visit to Indonesia expected to focus on trade

JAKARTA, April 9. (Reuters): Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu was greeted by President Suharto today at the start of his second Asian trip in 12 months.

The boom of a 21-gun salute echoed over Jakarta as Ceausescu, accompanied by his wife Elena, was welcomed by the 66-year-old Indonesian President on a visit expected to reinforce Jakarta's growing trade with Eastern Europe. The three-day visit is part of a pattern of developing links between Romania and the largest country in South-East Asia. Ceausescu came to Jakarta for the first time six years ago and Suharto visited Bucharest in 1985.

Though officially a member of the Communist Warsaw pact military alliance, Romania has pursued a relatively independent foreign policy, and has sought links with the Non-Aligned Movement of which Indonesia is a founding member. "Romania whose foreign policy is independent of the Soviet Union, has a lot of similarities with Indonesia's," said the Indonesian daily Kompas in an editorial. It said Romania supported the stand of the Association of South-East Asian nations (ASEAN) on Kampuchea and also urged the withdrawal of foreign forces from Afghanistan.

It is Ceausescu's second Asian trip in 12 months. He toured India, Bangladesh, Burma and Nepal and stopped over in Pakistan last May.

Japanese team promises more investments in Manila

MANILA, Philippines, April 9. (AP): A Japanese economic delegation said today that nine Japanese companies had agreed to fund business projects worth \$11.4 million in the Philippines.

Rokuro Ishikawa, head of the delegation of 127 businessmen, said the projects are concentrated in the manufacture of electronic equipment, chemicals, garments, food ceramics and transportation machinery.

Ishikawa said Japanese businessmen are particularly interested in the Philippines' political stability and expressed concern over reports of protracted labour disputes by militant trade unions.

"However, upon our visit we could see with our own eyes that your country, the private sector and the government are acting in unison to grapple with these problems. We are seeing a certain achievement and results out of all these efforts," Ishikawa said. "It means that viewed from the Japanese side, gradually we can see there is improvement on the climate of investment. The prospect in the Philippines is very bright," he added.

In 1987, Japanese investments in the Philippines totalled \$29.55 million, up from the previous year's \$22.72 million. Trade between the two countries in 1987 reached \$2.7 billion, with the Philippines suffering a deficit of \$1.5 million.

Ishikawa also said that the two countries had agreed to revive a joint economic committee which was suspended in 1984 to review the projects.

The Philippines' foreign debt stands at nearly \$29 billion.

\$6m Ifad loan for Nepal

ROME, April 9. (Opecna): The International Fund for Agricultural Development (Ifad) is to extend a \$6 million credit to help finance a rural project in Nepal. The \$1.2 million project will help improve the income of rural women and the standard of living of their families. Over 16,000 women will benefit. The credit proceeds will be used to provide on-farm activities such as livestock, the cultivation of rice, maize, wheat, vegetables and ginger, while credits for off-farm activities will enable women to set up fodder nurseries, and undertake handicraft and retail activities.

The scheme will also provide credits and grants to the poorest farmers with small landholdings for the development of simple irrigation systems.

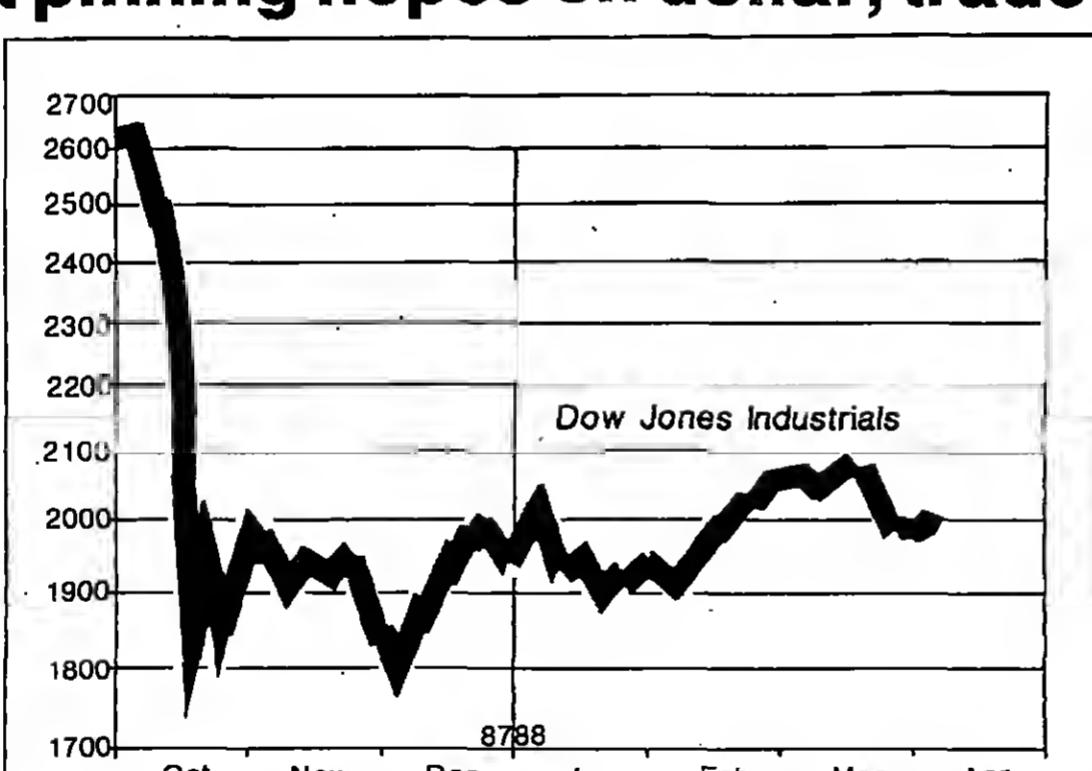
Other co-financers of the scheme are Unicef (\$2.7 million grant), Finland (\$1 million grant), voluntary agencies (\$300,000) and the Nepal government (\$2.02 million). This brings Ifad total assistance to the country to \$62 million for six projects.

Economic cooperation talks

BAGHDAD, April 9. (Opecna): Bulgarian Prime Minister Georgi Atanasov arrived here yesterday for talks with Iraqi officials aimed at expanding bilateral economic and trade relations. The two countries are expected to sign new agreements at the end of the 19th session of the joint Iraqi-Bulgarian committee on economic, technical and scientific cooperation meeting during the visit. The Iraqi side to the session is led by Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation Karim Hassan Redha, while the Bulgarian delegation is headed by Trade Minister Khris托夫. Earlier, Khris托夫 had talks with Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister, Taha Yassin Ramadhan and Minister of Trade, Mohammed Mehdi Saleh.

In an arrival statement, the Bulgarian prime minister said his visit would further contribute to boosting cooperation between Iraq and Bulgaria.

Wall Street pinning hopes on dollar, trade



As it turned out, that was nothing compared to the collapse that was coming later in the year. Still, it remains in Wall Street's memories as a period in which even some big-time professional traders got badly burned.

It doesn't help now that bond traders are once again talking about the possibility of Federal Reserve credit-tightening to keep inflation at bay. Yields on long-term government bonds climbed from about 8.4 percent to the neighbourhood of 8.3-4 percent in the past few weeks.

Stock-market investors couldn't shrug that off. The Dow Jones average of 30 industrials, after hitting a then-record high of 2,405 on April 6, fell to 2,216 by

The atmosphere could improve, many observers believe, if the markets get encouragement from the news on the dollar and foreign trade.

Hopes on that score helped the Dow Jones industrial average climb 102.13 points to a post-crash closing high of 2,090.19 in the past week.

Subdued

The New York Stock Exchange composite index rose 5.43 to 152.03; the Nasdaq composite index for the over-the-counter market 7.19 to 381.83, and the American Stock

Exchange market value index 4.06 to 300.49.

Volume on the Big Board remained subdued, however, averaging 170.89 million shares a day against 146.80 million in the holiday-shortened previous week.

In the view of Michael Shermer, analyst at Shearson Lehman Hutton Inc., the stock market has fared pretty well lately given the circumstances.

"The market's ability to shake off periodic plunges and to internalise problems in the bond market is a healthy sign," he argues.

Texaco officially emerges from bankruptcy

NEW YORK, April 9. (AP): Texaco Inc. officially ended a year under bankruptcy court protection on Thursday, completing its legal fight with Pennzoil Co. but facing continued pressure from dissident shareholders and takeover strategists.

Under a reorganisation plan approved on March 23 by a bankruptcy court judge, the oil giant based in White Plains, New York, transferred \$3 billion to a Houston bank account in Pennzoil's name. Texaco also will begin making another \$2.6 billion in payments to its other creditors.

The four wire transfers to Texas commerce bank took 10 minutes to complete, bank officials said.

In exchange for the \$3 billion, Pennzoil will drop its claim to a \$10.3-billion judgment against Texaco that Houston-based Pennzoil was holding when Texaco filed for protection from its creditors on last April 12.

Action

Texaco said it took that action to avoid having to post a potentially ruinous multibillion-dollar security bond while appealing the judgment awarded Pennzoil a Houston jury in November

Alshall stock price indices

Shares peer into the gloom

ALSHALL Index for Kuwaiti shareholding companies recorded a decrease of 0.31 points from last week's average. Alshall index for Gulf shareholding companies reached 46.79 points with a decrease of 0.75 points for the same period.

The trading volume for Kuwaiti shares reached 10.37 million shares at a daily average of 2.07 million shares with a decrease of 13.4 per cent from the previous week's daily average of 2.39 million shares. Gulf traded shares reached 11.81 million shares at a daily average of 2.36 million shares with a decrease of 57.3 per cent from last week's daily average of 5.53 million shares. The value of Kuwaiti traded shares was KD 0.609 million, a daily average of 14.3 per cent from last week's daily average of KD 0.711 million.

The value of Gulf traded shares was KD 0.356 million at a daily average of KD 0.071 million a decrease of 58 per cent from last week's daily average of KD 0.169 million.

The market seemed its declining trend for the second week. The decline was more obvious in Gulf shares in which the trading of some companies was stopped. It is not clear whether this was just a suspension or a deletion from the listed companies. This will be known next week and we will decide accordingly whether to keep these companies in the index calculation or to delete them.

For Kuwaiti shares the banking sector had the lead at 44.8 per cent of total trading volume of which the Gulf Bank had 35 per cent, Kuwait National Bank 28 per cent and Kuwait Finance House 22 per cent.

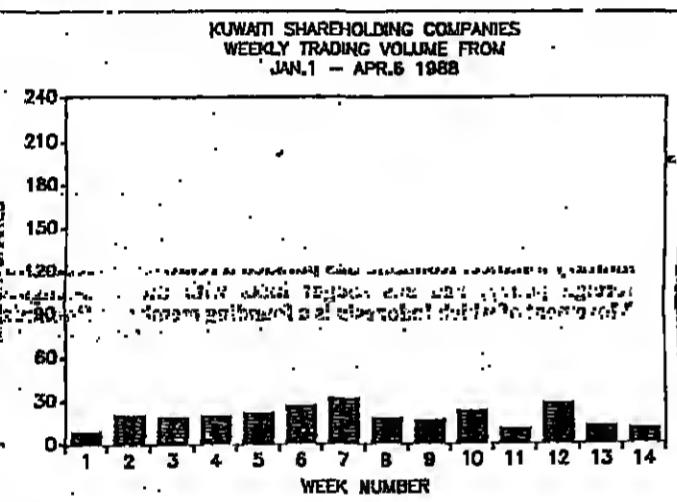
The Service Sector came second at 29.1 per cent of total trading volume of which Kuwait Commercial Markets had 74 per cent, Mobile Telephone Systems 18 per cent and Kuwait Computer Company 6 per cent. The Real Estate Sector ranked third at 13.1 per cent of which United Realty had 70 per cent and Kuwait Projects 30 per cent.

For Gulf shares the Other Companies Sector ranked first at 79 per cent with Ras Al-Khaimah White Cement having 72 per cent of total Gulf traded shares, followed by Coast Investment 9 per cent, then Bahrain International Bank 7 per cent.

In addition to the fact that the decline has been prevailing in the market since the beginning of the year, the suspension of some Gulf companies from trading together with the shelving of Bubiyan which was announced towards the end of last week had an adverse effect on the market.

Kuwaiti shareholding companies index

	Wednesday	Wednesday	Change
	06/04/88	30/03/88	points
Banking Sector			
Kuwait National Bank	88.27	88.27	—
The Gulf Bank	28.51	29.35	-0.84
The Commercial Bank	21.25	21.43	-0.17
Al Ahli Bank	26.91	27.39	-0.48
Bank of Kuwait & M. East	26.75	26.31	0.44
Kuwait R. Estate Bank	30.16	31.75	-1.59
Burgan Bank	24.38	24.58	-0.20
Kuwait Finance House	61.98	63.35	-1.36
Sector Index	39.14	39.53	-0.39
Investment Sector			
Kuwait Investment Co.	31.43	31.43	—



Kuwait Inv. Inv. Co.	27.84	27.84	—
Inv. Pearl Kuwait	82.54	82.54	—
IFA	75.00	75.00	—
Commercial Facilities	96.25	93.75	2.50
Sector Index	39.68	39.50	0.09

Kuwait Insurance Co.	37.57	37.51	—
Gulf Insurance Co.	28.46	28.46	—
Al Aleia Insurance Co.	45.09	49.09	—
Warba Insurance Co.	72.16	73.88	-1.72
Sector Index	38.24	38.33	0.09

Real Estate Sector	30.59	30.59	—
Kuwait Real Estate	12.96	13.18	-0.22
United Realty	45.39	45.39	—
National Real Estate	22.86	22.99	-0.13
Sector Index	31.34	31.50	-0.17

Kuwait Cement Co.	16.22	16.22	—
Refrigeration Indust.	80.51	80.51	—
Gulf Cables	99.76	99.76	—
Kuwait Pharmaceutical	50.67	54.22	-3.56
Sector Index	61.66	63.29	-1.63

Kuwait Computer Co.	207.36	205.20	2.16
Kuwait Cinema Co.	9.04	9.04	—
Public Warehousing Co.	68.69	75.76	-7.07
Kuwait Comm. Markets Co.	38.95	40.95	-2.00
Mobile Telephone Syst.	338.10	338.10	—
Sector Index	36.91	37.21	-0.31

Gulf shareholding companies index	Wednesday	Wednesday	Change
06/04/88	30/03/88	points	

Financial Companies

First Gulf Bank	163.16	163.16	—
United Gulf Bank	34.48	34.48	—
Bahrain Internat. Bank	92.41	93.79	-1.38
Bahrain M. East Bank	89.22	89.22	—
Gulf Investments Co.	61.03	61.03	—
Coast Inv. & Dev. Co.	72.73	76.19	-3.46
Bahrain Kuwait Inv. Gro.	62.62	66.49	-3.87
Arabian Gen. Inv. (Shuaa)	59.09	59.09	—
Sector Index	62.03	63.20	-1.17

Other Companies	12.83	12.83	—
Gulf Cement (fully paid)	12.83	12.83	—
Starjah Cement	10.50	10.50	—
Fujairah Cement	10.53	10.53	—
Ras Al Khaimah W. Cement	23.33	22.78	0.56
Gulf Medical Projects	18.21	18.21	—
Sector Index	14.84	14.70	0.14
Overall Index	46.79	47.54	-0.75

Base Period 31/12/1983.



Financial Companies

Kuwait Inv. Co.	0.098	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
Gulf Inv. Co.	0.041	—	—	—	—	—
Gulf Int'l Lns	0.009	—	—	—	—	—
Arab Int'l Co.	0.055	—	—	—	—	—
Sharjah Ins.	0.000	—	—	—	—	—
Gulf Union Ins.	0.055	—	—	—	—	—
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR						
B-Gulf Medical	0.016	—	—	—	—	—
C-R.K. White Chmt	0.021	—	—	—	—	—
D-Aljman Cement	0.007	—	—	—	—	—
E-Fujairah Cent	0.008	—	—	—	—	—
F-Sharjah Cement	0.010	—	—	—	—	—
G-Gulf Cement	0.015					

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

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AT2-41783-3

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AT2-41783-3

SPORTS

Abdon and Guiamoy take top spots

RYAN ABDON put in a brilliant performance to finish on top in the elimination round of the Philippine Bowlers Association in Kuwait (PBAK) Handicap Bowling Tournament at the 500 Club on Friday.

Abdon scored 224, 185 and 184 in the first, second and third games respectively, plus a handicap of 27 points, to finish with a total of 620.

Rudy Zahlan took the second position with a score of 562 while Jojo Medrano finished third with 434.

In the women's division, Bhe Guiamoy captured the top spot with a scratch score of 495, with 96 handicap points, to finish the elimination round with a total of 591. Cora Paras was second with 579 points and Pim Pimpimo third with 573.

The High Game in the elimination round was taken by Rudy Zahlan with a total score of 242 while Ryan Abdon ran away with the High Series Game by scoring 620.

Globe Hamdan posted her High Game with 216 pinfalls while Bhe Guiamoy finished on top in the women's High Series with 591.

According to PBAK president Manny Inserto, the semifinals will be held on Friday, April 15, at 9:30 a.m.

Qualifiers

Men's Division: Ryan Abdon, Philippines; Rudy Zahlan, Philippines; Jojo Medrano, Philippines; Ernie Landrito, Philippines; Carl Baginda, Philippines; Sammy Begonia, Philippines; Bill Combs, USA; Mum Hamdan, Palestine; Art Cahal, Philippines; Manny Inserto, Philippines; Saleh Karam, Kuwait; Boy Bagat, Philippines; Mac Ampalayo, Philippines; Norman Reyes, Philippines; Bien Dantes, Philippines; Jun Mojica, Philippines; Jun Manalo, Philippines; Pete Nierva, Philippines; Bob Peck, USA; Hamad Al Hassan, Kuwait; Mandy Salvo, Philippines; Celso Estrada, Philippines; Jaya Balan, Malaysia; Peling Ilagan, Philippines; Rico Pino, Philippines; Dodie Bantista, Philippines; Tony Lacson, Philippines; Nonoy Maramba, Philippines; Joe Chanwai, Thailand; Joel Laron, Philippines.

Women's Division: Bhe Guiamoy, Philippines; Cora Paras, Philippines; Lynne Reyes, Philippines; Vangie Simoy, Philippines; Lilia Ganancian, Philippines; Bojo Hamdan, Philippines; Bahy Militante, Philippines.

The tournament is organised by Philippine Bowlers Association in Kuwait (PBAK) and sponsored by Gulf Trading and Maritime Establishment (GTME).

Astros rally for victory over Reds

NEW YORK, April 9. (AP): The Houston Astros are used to long nights early in the season at Riverfront stadium. They're not used to closing out an April marathon with a victory.

The Astros nearly lost, then nearly won last night against the Reds before finally winning 8-3 in 16 innings. They were one out from defeat when Glenn Davis hit a two-run homer in the ninth inning to tie it 2-2. They led 3-2 after Alan Ashby's home run in the 13th, only to see the Reds rally.

But, in the 16th, there was no stopping Houston from getting its third consecutive victory.

Reliever Larry Andersen started the winning rally with a leadoff single against Jose Rijo, the sixth Cincinnati pitcher. Rijo threw wildly to first on Gerald Young's sacrifice bunt, leaving runners at first and third. Young stole second and Billy Hatcher followed with a two-run single.

Davis got an RBI single following Hatcher's hit for a 6-3 lead. A run-scoring single by Rafael Ramirez and a sacrifice fly by Ashby completed the big inning.

Dodgers 6, Braves 3

Atlanta stayed the only winning team at 0-4, despite playing all home games, as Alfredo Griffin's bases-loaded triple broke a 3-3 tie in the sixth.

Giants 5, Padres 1

At San Francisco, Kevin Mitchell drove in three runs with a home run and single and new leadoff man Bret Butler sparked two rallies for the Giants, who kept San Diego winless in four games.

Results

National League	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300	301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368	369	370	371	372	373	374	375	376	377	378	379	380	381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389	390	391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400	401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410	411	412	413	414	415	416	417	418	419	420	421	422	423	424	425	426	427	428	429	430	431	432	433	434	435	436	437	438	439	440	441	442	443	444	445	446	447	448	449	450	451	452	453	454	455	456	457	458	459	460	461	462	463	464	465	466	467	468	469	470	471	472	473	474	475	476	477	478	479	480	481	482	483	484	485	486	487	488	489	490	491	492	493	494	495	496	497	498	499	500	501	502	503	504	505	506	507	508	509	510	511	512	513	514	515	516	517	518	519	520	521	522	523	524	525	526	527	528	529	530	531	532	533	534	535	536	537	538	539	540	541	542	543	544	545	546	547	548	549	550	551	552	553	554	555	556	557	558	559	560	561	562	563	564	565	566	567	568	569	570	571	572	573	574	575	576	577	578	579	580	581	582	583	584	585	586	587	588	589	590	591	592	593	594	595	596	597	598	599	600	601	602	603	604	605	606	607	608	609	610	611	612	613	614	615	616	617	618	619	620	621	622	623	624	625	626	627	628	629	630	631	632	633	634	635	636	637	638	639	640	641	642	643	644	645	646	647	648	649	650	651	652	653	654	655	656	657	658	659	660	661	662	663	664	665	666	667	668	669	670	671	672	673	674	675	676	677	678	679	680	681	682	683	684	685	686	687	688	689	690	691	692	693	694	695	696	697	698	699	700	701	702	703	704	705	706	707	708	709	710	711	712	713	714	715	716	717	718	719	720	721	722	723	724	725	726	727	728	729	730	731	732	733	734	735	736	737	738	739	740	741	742	743	744	745	746	747	748	749	750	751	752	753	754	755	756	757	758	759	760	761	762	763	764	765</th

SPORTS BRIEFS

Iraqi team

KUALA LUMPUR, April 9, (Kuna): Malaysia will soon order an investigation into the reasons which led the Iraqi football team to pull out from the pre-Asian Cup soccer tournament in progress here. The investigation will be ordered by the Malaysian Minister of Youth and Sports Najib Tun Razak, with instructions to the Malaysian Football Association to prepare a detailed report on the Iraqi grievances, to be submitted to him.

Soviet coach

MOSCOW, April 9, (Reuter): Soviet national soccer coach Valery Lohanovsky has developed a serious heart problem, a Soviet sports official said.

Caretaker manager

CARDIFF, April 9, (Reuter): Former Leeds United midfielder Terry Yorath was appointed caretaker manager of Wales yesterday for their next three friendly soccer internationals.

£1m offer

AMSTERDAM, April 9, (Reuter): British business tycoon Roher Maxwell has offered Jan van Gaal £1 million (\$1.8 million) in help build Utrecht into a club capable of breaking PSV Eindhoven's domination of the Dutch Soccer League.

Soviet player

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J., April 9, (Reuter): The president of the New Jersey Devils denied yesterday that the National Hockey League (NHL) team had signed Soviet Vyacheslav Fetisov, but he said negotiations with the star defenceman were continuing.

Pat Cash

CLERMONT-FERRAND, France, April 9, (Reuter): Wimbledon champion Pat Cash, who missed Australia's Davis Cup clash with France this weekend because his girlfriend was expecting their second child, became the father of a girl on Thursday, team-mate Darren Cahill said.

Taiwan Open

TAIPEI, April 9, (Reuter): Taiwanese Lin Chi-Hsiang holed out from a bunker at the 16th and went on to card a one over par 73 to move to the top of the leader board after the third round of the Taiwan Open golf championship today.

Cup showjumping

GOTHENBURG, Sweden, April 9, (Reuter): Britain's Malcolm Pyrah and John Whitaker staged a revival in the World Cup showjumping final yesterday to take first and second place respectively on the second day of competition.

Yamaha Cup

FUKUROI, Japan, April 9, (AP): Taiwan's Huang Yueh-Chyn fired two birdies and nine bogeys on the last four holes en route to a 72 today and took the sole lead entering the final round of the 50 million yen (\$400,000) Yamaha Cup women's open golf tournament.

Rameez hits unbeaten half-century

CASTRIES, St Lucia, April 9, (Reuter): A cavalier unbeaten 54 by opener Rameez Raja helped Pakistan to 93 for nine at lunchtime the first day of their four-day cricket match against the West Indies under-23 side today.

Rameez, loosing the ball impudently over the close field, reached his 50 off only 62 balls with nine boundaries.

Mudassar Nazar, captaining Pakistan for the first time, had a slice of luck in the second over of the day when he was dropped in the gully off paceman Barrington Brown.

Bowled

But he failed to profit markedly from his let-off and was bowled for 30 shortly before lunch by off-spinner Nehemiah Parry's quicker ball. The opening pair had put on 87 for the first wicket.

Shoaib Mohammed joined Rameez and at the interval was four not out.

Scores: Pakistan 93 for one (Rameez Raja 54 not out) vs West Indies under-23.

THE Hilton Bridge Club games will be conducted at the Hilton premises every Sunday at 8.00pm from this evening.

Results of the Messilah Ladies Bridge Club games played on Saturday morning:

1. Nida Khalid & Jolnette Chiles

2. Nahil Akel & Leila Mardhiwaite

3. Lyn Edwards & Pearl Leary

ALDRIDGE SCORES TWO AGAINST FOREST

Liverpool to face Wimbledon in Cup final

LONDON, April 9, (Reuter): John Aldridge, who will never replace Ian Rush in the eyes of the fans at Anfield, was the hero of the hour as Liverpool overcame Nottingham Forest to reach the Football Association (FA) Cup final today.

Aldridge, Liverpool's premier striker since Rush joined Juventus this season, scored both goals as three times Cup winners Liverpool reached the final for the eighth time.

Liverpool's opponents at Wembley on May 14 will be unfashionable Wimbledon, who came from a goal behind to beat Luton Town 2-1 in the other semi-final at White Hart Lane, Tottenham.

Liverpool, chasing their second League and FA Cup double in three years, exacted full revenge for last Saturday's 2-1 defeat by Forest in the First Division with a typically professional display at Sheffield Wednesday's Hillsborough ground.

Swarmed

They had to survive a frantic opening 10 minutes as the young Forest side swarmed around goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar in search of an early goal. But Liverpool took the lead in their first real attack in the 12th minute.

That only served to increase Wimbledon's determination and they drew level six minutes later when Luton reserve goalkeeper Andy Dihlke, who has played only three first-team games in two seasons, presented them with a gift equaliser.

Dihlke, guilty of a series of nervous errors from the opening

quarter-century mark after 52 minutes when he volleyed home from close range following a move involving Barnes and his England colleague Peter Beardsley.

Forest boss Brian Clough, appearing in his first FA Cup semifinal after 26 years as a player and manager, watched Liverpool assume total control after that but they could not convert their supremacy into a third goal.

And Liverpool found their League and Cup double hopes under threat in the 66th minute when Nigel Clough, subject of a £1.5 million (\$2.8 million) transfer bid from Pisa of Italy in mid-week, reduced the leeway.

Grobbelaar failed to hold a long cross from Forest striker Paul Wilkinson and Clough junior forced home the first FA Cup goal of his career, his first ever against Liverpool, and the first the Reds had conceded in this season's competition.

Wimbledon, who left the Fourth Division only five years ago, totally dominated the first half against Luton but fell behind to a Mick Harford goal after 48 minutes.

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minute, failed in clutch a Denis Wise corner and could only prevent a certain goal by impeding Wimbledon striker Terry Gibson.

In John Fashanu thundered home the inevitable penalty and, with Wimbledon back in their sights, Wimbledon increased the tempo.

With 10 minutes remaining, Dihlke, substituting for injured

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